U.S.: PLO keeping to its pledge

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The U.S. State Department in a report sent to Congress credits Yasser Arallat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation (Organisation (PLO), with adhering to his commitment resonating terrorism, Since Arafat took the pledge in December 1965 at the beheat of the administration of then-President Round Reagan, there have been nearly 38 border and rocket attacks by Palestinian groups against Israel, the report mid. At least size of the attacks involved "constituent groups" of the FLO, the report said, and in three cases civilians appeared to be the target. However, after a thorough residence of the cases civilians appeared to be the turget. However, after a thorough review, the department told Congress:
"We have no evidence in those cases or any others that the actions were authorised and approved by the PLO Executive Committee or by Arafat personally." Arafat's renunciation of ierrorism, and a statement by him acknowledging larger's existence, cleaned the many of the control of the con acknowledging Israel's existence, cleared the way for official U.S. talks with the PLO. Those talks are being conducted in Tunks by Robert Pelletreau, the U.S. ambassador to Tunksia.

Jordan Tim

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الآردنية والرايء Karameh anniversary marked today

AbimAN (Petra) — Jordan Wednesday storks the 22nd anniversary of the Karameh Battle which ensued after Israel sent in large number of troops, tanks and air lighters to the area in the Jordan Valley in an attempt to occupy the valley and the heights overlocking it. The Israeli attempt was seen as aimed at forcing Jordan to surrender and to accept the settlement that atmost at forcing Jordan to surrender and to accept the actilement that israell wants to impose by force. Instead of acheiving a victory, israel was defeated in the battle and sustained heavy casualities. On the occasion of the anniversary, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday sent a cable to Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb congratulating him and the Armed Forces personnel on the success they achieved during the battle and wishing them continued success in sufigurarding the homeiand and defending the Arab land. Abu Taleb had, earlier sent a cable to Prince Hassau congragulating him on the occasion and voiced pride in and pledging continued allegiance to the Hashemite leadership. Prince Hassau also received a similar cable from Public Security Department chief Lieutenant-General Fadel Ali Fuheid.

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AMMAN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1990, SHA'BAN 24, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Crown Prince voices pride in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal fightess Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday sent a mes-sage of affection to the people of Jordan on the occasion of his 43rd birthday. The Regent expressed pride in the achievements of the Kigadom and said Jordan carries heavy burdens and faces enormous challenges. Despite meagre resources and tisanks to the efforts of the people, a great deal has been achieved, the Crown Prince said. Prince Hassan said over the past 20 years he had been interacting with the challenges facing the country and had been following up its construction and development. The Regent referred to the settlement of Jewish unigrants in the occupied territories and said that the Jordanian people have to be united in confronting this new challenge.

Colombo to close israeli interest office

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka ordered Tuesday the closure of the Colombo office which represents Israeli interests in Sri Lanka and functions under the U.S. embassy, an official statement said. It said President Ranasinghe Premadasa told Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne to close the Israeli interests section before April 20. Sri Lanka cut diplomatic ties with Israel 20 years ago but in 1984 allowed a section to be set up under the auspices of the U.S. embassy to represent Israeli in-

Iraq, Turkey discuss borders

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Tuesday border demarcation talks between imag and Tarkey being held in Baghdad were progressing satisfactorily. "The new round of talks at experts level started on Monday without any problems," an Iraqi official told Reuters. A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Ankara said early in the day the Baghdad talks were aimed to clarify where the border between the two neighbouring countries lie and to agree repair to frontier markings.

Libya agrees to compensate Egyptians

CAIRO (R) — Libya has agreed to pay Egypt at least \$6 million to help compensate the tens of thousands of Egyptian workers it expelled in 1985, government sources said Tuesday. The agreement was the latest sign of improving relations between Cairo and Tripoli that were strained by more than a decade of differences over Middle East policy.

Sharaa leaves Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farous Al Sharaa left Tehran after intensive talks with senior Iranian leaders, the Iranian news agency TRNA reported Tuesday. The agency did not say if Sharan discussed the Western hostages believed held by protransan militants in Lebanon during his two-day visit.

Pakistan unveils battle tank

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Monday rolled out its first locally sembled battle tank, the official APP news agency said. Regular production of the T-69-11MP tank, fitted with a 105-millimetre gun, will begin Dec. 31 at the factory in Taxita. The factory, 32 kilometres west of Islamabad, was built with Chinese help and can produce 200 tanks a year. ' Army Chief of Staff General Mir-24 Asiam Beg said at a ceremony at the factory that the T69-11MP was part of a project to build a new tank for the Pakistan army, APP reported. .

Yemens discuss merger plans

ADEN (R) - The North and South Yemeni cabinets held their second joint meeting Tuesday to discuss the merger of their countrics due to take place by November, official sources said. The two countries have already agreed to merge their central banks, media and other institutions as part of the transition to a united Yemen. Deputies, meeting in closed session, seek details on 19 other cases

House refers nine cases of corruption to attorney general

CBJ gold sales, construction projects and food tenders among those which may go to court

By Salameh Ne'matt Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament Tuesday reviewed a preliminary report on finan-cial and administrative corruption in public institutions, and decided to refer nine cases to the attorney general for investigation and possible prosecution, informed

In the report, submitted by the House's Financial Committee during a six-hour closed session. the deputies also reviewed 19 other cases, which required further investigation, said a parliamentary source.

official correspondence on cor- sources quoted by Reuters and ruption in many local institutions, mainly infrastructure projects, tenders and food supply viola-

tions," according to the source. The source said there was enough information to deem nine of the cases fit for consideration and investigation by the attorney general for possible crimianl prosecution.

Abdullah Akayleh, rapporteur of the Finance Committee, told Jordan Television that the panel's main concern was "to pursue the corrupt and bring those responsible to the proper authority which will rule on these cases very

The committee's report was According to information accompanied by "documents and , available to the Jordan Times and

the Associated Press, the cases sent to the attorney general included a sale of Central Bank gold holdings, the Abu Nseir housing project, the Jbeiha amusement park project, the Jafr-Azraq road project, the Swaqa prison project, food tenders, and projects of the Jordan Valley Authority.

According to other reports, the House decided to seek more information on at least 19 other cases which involve the supply of a strategic command and control centre, vehicle purchases, the Ma'in spa project, the Jordan Television, Radio and Cinema

(Continued on page 5)

Peres asked to form Israeli government

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, who has pledged to begin Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, was asked Tuesday in a televised ceremony to form the next Israeli government.

President Chaim Herzog, after three days of consulting factions in the Israeli parliament, gave the 66-year-old politician the go ahead to try to form a government to replace that of Prime

Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Israel Television broadcast livecoverage of Herzog giving a letter of nomination to the 66-year-old. Peres, who headed Israel's gov-

ernment in 1984-6. Israeli law left Herzog with the authority to choose a candidate for prime minister. Peres has six weeks to form a new ruling coalition, but it was not certain he would be able to bring together his leftist allies and conservative religious factions.

Labour won a no-confidence vote 60-55 last Thursday, toppling a Likud-Labour coalition government that was led by hardline Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who will stay on as caretaker

The crisis arose over Shamir's refusal to accept U.S. proposals

for starting a peace dialogue with Palestinians in Cairo. Peres was pledged to starting such talks immediately without

further debate. As Herzog gave the appointment letter to Peres, the president was overheard saying the political situation was "very complicated" and urging "non-stop

Peres replied: "Yes, non-stop

negotiations" to form a new gov-

If Peres and his centre-left Labour Party fail, Herzog could give the task to Shamir, who remains in office until a new government is installed.

If both Peres and Shamir are unable to forge a coalition, then Herzog could choose another member of parliament or urge the Knesset to call elections.

Likud and Labour, who have shared nower for more than five years in a so-called national unity coalition, each claimed the support of 60 seats in the 120member parliament.

But neither had a clear-cut claim to be chosen by Herzog. In the final hours before his decision was announced, Herzog talked with representatives of both Labour and Likud.

During his three days of consultations with parliament factions, Herzog warned there was growing public anger over politichorsetrading by Labour and Likud which could harm the country's democracy.

Israel Television said Shamir had the edge because he was the incumbent and the religious factions would fit more readily with the conservative Likud. But some Israeli newspapers

reported Peres remained Herzog's likely choice because the party was technically the largest faction with 39 legislators to Likud's 35.

Likud lost the no-confidence vote 60-55 after the Sephardic Torah Guardians, or Shas, party spiritual leader, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, ordered his ultra-orthodox faction to abstain from the vote.

ing in the party, which is made up

largely of Sephardic Jews from

the Middle East who are political-

our country and the PLO, there's no doubt that the PLO can play either a major constructive or He made the recommendation destructive role in peace proafter Shamir refused to accept cess," he said. U.S. proposals for starting a dia-The former president, who logue with Palestinians in Cairo. once fired his U.N. ambassador

But Monday, the "Torah Guardians" swung back to Shamir's Likud after criticism from other leading rabbis and an upris-

Defence Law to be annulled; committee works on substitutes

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A special panel of legal experts and consultants at the Prime Ministry is currently engaged in preparing for the annulment of the 1935 Defence Law and the enactment of substitute legislation to cover any legal loopholes which may result from this step.

According to an informed source, the panel has received clear instructions from Prime Minister Mudar Badran to pave the road for the annulment of the law "as soon as possible "

The 55-year-old law gives military governors in Jordan absolute power over civil and executive procedures without any legal liability in the King-

dom's courts. The prime minister, the source said, has asked for complete studies and plans for "executive procedures needed before the annulment of the

The source told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the panel was studying amendments to existing civil laws as well as additional legislation "which will serve to fill the judiciary loopholes which will result from the annulment of the Defence Law."

"For example, the Defence Law used to govern the selling price of petrol, cement and cigarettes. When the Defence Law is annulled the civil law has to cover this," said the source, who asked not to be

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — Former U.S. Presi-

dent Jimmy Carter said Tuesday

the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) had a major role

to play in the search for Middle

"I personally believe that our

government's leaders ought to

continue their direct talks with

(PLO Chairman) Yasser Arafat and other leaders," Carter said at

strong disagreements between

"Although we certainly have

the end of a three-day visit.

Fast peace.

The move, according to the source, comes in accordance with the prime minister's pledge to the Lower House of Parliament during the vote-ofconfidence session in January to abolish the Defence Law within a period of no more than six months.

Deputies at the Lower House have called for the annulment of the law since it is usually enacted only in a state of war or severe internal

"All developed countries have defence laws but they are only applied in a state of war." Senator Omar Nabulsi told the Jordan Times.

Nabulsi, a lawyer, explained that a Defence Law is usually "requisitioned for an extraordinary state of war where civil rights are suspended temporarily."

Lawyer Ibrahim Abu Rahmeh said the Defence Law in Jordan was used by the military governor to "eradicate free political activity."

Recently, Lower House Speaker Suleiman Arar delivered a speech on "Democracy in Jordan" in which he said the Defence Law stipulates that "any security personnel can apprehend anyone without an arrest order from the court if that person is behaving in a manner judged to be against the overall security or if that person is suspected of a crime.

Arar, who was speaking at Jordan University, added that

because of his unauthorised con-

tacts with the PLO, had been

expected to meet Arafat in Tuni-

Namibian independence celebra-

tions and Carter was to return to

the United States after talks with

absorption centre for immigrants

and criticised settling Soviet Jew-

ish immigrants in occupied Jeru-

migrants in Jerusalem serves only

ecutive Committee of the

Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion (PLO) and head of the

PLO team that is in contact

with the American ambassador

The settlement of Soviet im-

salem, Israeli officials said.

On Monday, Carter visited an

Cypriot leaders Tuesday night.

However, Arafat was attending

sia after leaving Israel.

the Defence Law gave the prime minister "authority to order the arrest or detention of

Abu Rahmeh explained that the law was put into effect at a time when the Emirate of Transjordan was "in a state of war."

The law has been in effect since that date and has been used to control prices of commodities as well as the press. It was used by military governors in the different governorates to organise certain priorities.

"For example, gas-filling establishments had to be located outside municipal borders because they are hazardous. This was enacted through a Defence Law order; now we need a civil law to do this," the source said.

One of the most important elements in the Defence Law was punishment for those who had dealing with the Israeli enemy. "Jordanians who sold land or had trade with Israelis were punished by a Defence Law order. Now the punishment has to stay in effect but we need a civil law to apply it," the source explained.

The source would not give an exact date when the Defence Law will be annulled. The government is in a hurry... it will be soon," he said. The Defence Law can only

be annulled through a royal decree and all amendments to existing or new civil laws have to be proposed to Parliament for debate and approval before they-are adopted.

Carter sees key role for PLO

tage of the arriving immigrants were directed to apartments in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but refused to state his position on the issue, said Meir Edelstien, director of the absorption centre eight

Carter's remarks came one day after he told Jerusalem's Israeli mayor, Teddy Kollek, that Jerusalem should remain a united city. This comes amid statements by President George Bush equating Jewish neighbourhoods in Arab Jerusalem with West Bank

kilometres west of Jerusalem.

to spark Palestinian protests and settlements. should be discouraged," one of During his visit in Amman, the officials quoted Carter as Carter called Soviet Jewish imsaying during the private meetmigrants settling in the West Bank and Gaza Strip "an impedi-Carter also asked what percenment to peace."

Dismissed **Yarmouk** staff to be reinstated

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Council of Higher Education has decided to allow the reinstatement of academicians and members of the administrative staff at Yarmonk University who were dismissed after student unrest hit the campus in 1986, according to one of the sacked staff mem-

The council's decision, which involves 16 academicians and six members of the administrative staff at the university, came less than one week after 150 people held a sit-in in front of the Prime Ministry asking for the reinstatement of people who were dismissed from their jobs for political reasons.
Irbid Deputy Deeb Marji,

who was one of the 16 academicians dismissed after the 1986 Yarmonk incident which left three students dead, said the government had moved "quickon the reinstatement of the Ýarmouk staff.

"A request asking for the reinstatement of the professors at Yarmouk was directly passed. on to the prime minister about two weeks ago," Marji told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

The deputy, who is a member of the Democratic bloc in the Lower House of Parliament, said that the government was apparently "doing everything in its power to reinstate as many the dismissed persons as possible."

The Public Freedoms Committee of the professional unions has adopted the cases of more than 950 "dismissed" persons in the Kingdom. The Ministry of Education has announced that a total of 153 people have been reinstated.

The Council of Higher Education, in a meeting held Monday, also discussed administrative and academic changes in the Kingdom's universities and other institutions of higher education.

On the council's agenda was the establishment of autonomy for the Kingdom's four universities, the possibility of establishing a faculty for Sharia at Yarmouk University, the establishment of student unions, and fees at community colleges, according to one council mem-

split Rabbo denies DFLP with the Jordan Times, Abed By Zakaria Mohammad Abed Rabbo's statements Rabbo, a member of the Ex-

Special to the Jordan Times

TUNIS — A senior official of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) has denied reports that the group's leadership was split over the efforts to settle the Palestinian problem. Yasser Abed Rabbo, assis-

tant secretary of the DFLP, said although there were differences of viewpoints among the group's members and leaders, these do not mean that the faction was on the verge of a

Speaking in an interview

to Tunisia, said democracy had always been one of the main features of the group, and the emergence of differences in viewpoints and opinions were the result of such democracy. We have been trying to

enhance this democracy for over one year now, and it is the only safeguard against divisions," he told the Jordan

followed reports that the DFLP was split into two groups - one headed by DFLP General Secretary Navef Hawatmeh and the other by Abed Rabbo himself. over the PLO's tactics. The Palestinian people can-

not afford any divisions, particularly that the uprising is raging in the occupied lands, Abed Rabbo said.

The 27-month-old uprising has changed the relationship between various PLO factions and Arab governments,he said. "When the Palestinian struggle was being waged from

Bank and Gaza Strip), relations with Arab governments were a top priority," he said. "Now that the struggle is from within, priorities have to be reconsidered," he added.

According to Abed Rabbo, the DFLP has accepted the principle of a two-state solution to the Palestinian problem, but there was debate within the group whether or not to declare this position in public.

"It is my conviction that such a programme should be made very clear since it strengthens the uprising," he said.

Communists beaten in Soviet polls Old-guard

MOSCOW (AP) — Supporters of democratic reform won victories across the Soviet Union, defeating old-guard Communists in runoff elections in the Slavic heartland and choosing independence activists in the Baltic republics, according to prelimin-

In Estonia, incomplete results indicated candidates from the pro-independence Popular Front won at least 38 of the 105 seats in the republic's new parliament, said Rina Lohmus, a correspondent for Estonian Radio.

ary results Tuesday.

The Estonian Committee, a more radical independence group, won at least 16 seats, and deputies from several small parties supporting the Popular Front platform won several seats,

according to the radio's calculations. Results from about 15 seats had still not been determined, Lohmus said.

Preliminary results from Estonia extended the electoral success of independence movements in the Baltics

In Lithuania, legislators backed by the Sajudis movement declared their republic independent from the Soviet Union after Feb. 24 elections.

The Latvian pro-independence movement also won a clear majority in legislative elections. Although official results were not expected until Friday, Lempi Tekone, a spokeswoman for the Estonian People's Front said the party expected to have the supthe deputies. The Yedinstvo organisation, representing primarily Russian-

speaking residents, probably would control more than 20 per cent of the seats, she said. Lohmus said Free Estonia, the election front founded by the

republic's Communist Party, had won about 10 seats. Pro-independence activists said the Communists may back the

movement in important legislative votes.

Estonia is unlikely to follow Lithuania in pushing hard for independence. Activists say the new parliament is likely to discuss sharing power with the Estonian Congress, a citizens' gathering

port of about three-quarters of that demands independence, and press for talks with the Kremlin. In Latvia, Popular Front spokesman Kristian Rozenvald said Monday the proindependence group hoped to win a two-thirds majority in runoff elections next month.

> Reformers also claimed victories in key runoff elections Sunday in Russia, Byelorussia and the Ukraine, the Slavic heartland that accounts for about 80 per cent of Soviet territory and twothirds of its population.

> Some 1,610 runoff elections were held in the Slavic republics after no candidate polled 50 per cent of the vote March 4 in themain round of elections for local parliaments and councils.

E. German exodus BONN (AP) — West Germany Tuesday decided to scrap a 40-

Bonn moves to stem

year-old special aid programme for East German settlers in a bid to slow the exodus that has crippled East Germany's economy. Wolfgang Schaeuble, West Germany's interior minister, also told reporters he thought major steps towards unifying the two German states would occur in the

next few months. "We assume that by summer we will be able to achieve a currency, economic and social community." he said.

His statements came two days after a conservative three-party alliance that favours rapid unification won East Germany's first-ever free elections. The alliance was backed by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and led by the sister party of Kohl's Christian Democratic Un-

It won 193 seats in the 400member parliament, leaving it eight short of a controlling majority. West Germany is urging the alliance to seek a coalition with the second-place Social Democrats, who control 87 seats. Such a coalition would control

the two-thirds parliamentary

majority needed to declare a merger with West Germany under a provision in the West German

The leftist Social Democrats. however, have rejected a coalition overture. They support unification, but advocate a more deliberate process, including the writing of a new all-German constitution. A liberal three-party coalition

that won 21 seats in the election formally merged Tuesday into a single party to be called the Free Democratic Party. It is supported by West Germany's Free Democrats, a junior coalition partner in Kohl's government. The new party was considering

victorious conservative alliance. That coalition would have a parliamentary majority of 214 seats. Volker Ruche, head of Kohl's party, met Tuesday in East Berlin with leaders of the conservative alliance, including East German

entering a coalition with the

Maiziere. De Maiziere's party, which won the most parliamentary seats, supports immediate economic union with West Germany as a first step toward unification.

CDU Chairman Lothar de

Deputies meet in W. Beirut

ly conservative.

BEIRUT (AP) - Lebanon's parliament convened at its pre-civil war headquarters in downtown west Benut Tuesday for the first time in nearly 15 years.

The session, attended by 37 of

the 72 surviving parliamentary deputies, elected the unicameral house's 13 committees and voted a 40 per cent wage increase for civil servants. Speaker Hussein Husseini, a Shi'ite Muslim, scheduled another session at the same venue

Thursday to deliberate several

bills, including one promoting officers of the 22,000 mostly Mus-

lim troops loyal to President Elias

Hrawi. In another development, police said one person was wounded when a small bomb exploded near the Carton Hotel in the Ras Beirut district

venue in west Beirut's Star Square since mid-1975. The session Tuesday was attended by lawmakers from the various sects and was seen by the local media as a step towards remiting the war-ridden country.

The meeting Tuesday was the

first by parliament at its old

Deputies ask Iran to deny part in hostage talks

Hostage crisis moving towards solution, Hizbollah official says

official of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah said Tuesday he believed the issue of Western hostages in Lebanon was moving towards a solution.

But the official, Hussein Mussawi, also warned that the kidnappers would expect something in return. The captors have demanded the release of Arabs jailed in Israel, Kuwait and European countries.

"The hostages will not remain captive forever,." Mussawi told Renters in an interview at his heavily-guarded headquarters in the ancient city of Baalbeck, 67

kilometres east of Beirut. The issue is moving towards a solution. There is a certain breakthrough. The atmosphere is that of a solution. I don't know when they will be freed but I know that there is a direction towards a

solution. He said this would include all Westerners held by Shi'ite Mus-

lim extremists loyal to Iran. Seventeen Westerners are missing believed kidnapped in Lebanon, although there has been no news of some of them since they were abducted.

Some of the hostages have been held in Baalbeck, once a resort noted for its Roman ruins. The town is now a hotbed for Hizbollah, the Iranian-backed Party of God, and Iranian Revolutionary Guards who have training camps and a major barracks here.

The white-bearded Mussawi. a member of the Hizboilah Central Council, said any solution "should meet some or all the demands of the kidnappers." Hizbollah is widely thought to

be an umbrella organisation which includes kidnap groups, although it has denied direct in-

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former

Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky

Tuesday criticised Israel's cen-

sorship of reports on Soviet im-

migration, saving it was hurting

fund-raising and other efforts to

Sharansky was joined by an

The ban on publication of im-

migration figures was imposed

March 1 amid mounting Arab

protests that the influx could lead

to more Jewish settlement in the

Israeli-occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip, home to 1.7 million

WASHINGTON (AP) -

Afghan rebels say they are in

grave need of U.S. weapons and

food, and they have attracted

Mohammad Saljuqui of the

National Islamic Front of Afgha-

nistan, or NIFA, a moderate

Sunni Muslim faction among the

coalition of Mujahedeen rebels.

"I don't know how long we can

Saljuqi's comments in a tele-

phone interview Monday from

Tehran, Iran, came as U.S. and

Soviet diplomats prepare to dis-

cuss the stalemated war in Afgha-

nistan. They will explore a possi-

ble political solution to remove

the Soviet-installed Kabul gov-

ernment from power during a

the growing controversy over the

10-year U.S. aid Programme to

the Mujahedeen. Support in Con-

"We're very desperate," said

backers in Congress.

official of a resettlement agency

settie the new immigrants.

censorship.

Sharansky criticises Israeli

censorship of immigration

Westerners did so for a certain reason. They have special demands. I don't expect any solution to the hostage issue without the fulfillment of the kidnappers' demands," Mussawi said.

What would those who have held hostages for two, three or four years benefit if they release them without something in return... they definitely want to fulfill their demands."

Mussawi said there were no direct or official contacts between Iran and the United States over the hostage issue. But he said Algeria at a certain stage played a mediating role between Western governments and the captors.

He doubted whether an agreement between Washington and Tehran, influential with the captors, could secure the release of the hostages, who include eight Americans and three Britons.

Mussawi said there has been contacts between Washington and Kuwait to press the Gulf state to free some of the 17 Shi'ite Muslims jailed there for a series of bombings in 1983.

Their freedom has been a major demand by the Islamic Jihad (holy war) group which holds American journalist Terry Anderson, who has just completed five years in captivity, and American University dean Tho-

mas Sutherland. Mussawi said no matter what the United States and other countries announced, secret deals as in the past — would be concluded to obtain the hostages' freedom and meet the demands of the captors.

He gave as an example Anis Naccache who media reports in Paris said would be pardoned by French President Francois Mitterrand on National Day in July.

Sharansky, who heads the

Soviet Jewry Zionist Forum, told

the Associated Press Tuesday

that some self-censorship might

be needed to ensure the security

But he added: "We need more

support from world Jewry and, to

more effectively, we need more

public pressure. We can't do it

under conditions of censorship.

activists have charged that the

Jewish state is not preparing

enough housing and jobs for the

Afghan rebels protest distribution of U.S.

gress has been eroding following

the Soviet military pullout from

United States should increase su-

pervision of its aid and make sure

it gets to the right groups, liberals

advocate a U.S. cutoff of aid for

the rebels coupled with an end to

Soviet aid for the Afghan govern-

Robert Peck, until June 1989

the Bush administration's top

analyst on Afghanistan, said in

recent congressional testimony

that the United States had be-

come entangled in factional fight-

ing among the Mujahedeen and

Other experts say Pakistan's

secret service, which is in charge

of distributing U.S. weapons to

the guerrillas, discriminates

against NIFA and other pro-

Western factions in favour of

Saljuqi said NIFA guerrillas

fundamentalist Muslim groups.

have not received any ammuni-

should disengage.

While conservatives believe the

Sharansky and other Israeli

of the immigrants.

arriving Soviets.

Afghanistan last year.

former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar in 1980, would be released under a secret deal that led to freedom for three French hostages in Beirut in May

Naccache's release was one of the demands of Islamic Jihad which held the three Frenchmen.

The deputies asked the Foreign Ministry to investigate the fate of the Iranian hostages in Lebanon and take steps to save them, Tehran Radio said.

Mussawi, an articulate speaker in his late 40s, said Hizbollah wanted a comprehensive solution that would meet "the interests of the hostages, the people suffering in Israeli jails, in Kuwaiti jails

He said cooperation between Syria, the main foreign power broker in Lebanon where it has some 40,000 troops, and Iran was also needed to obtain the hos-

"Iran enjoys moral influence on some groups holding hostages and Syria also has relations with the same Islamic, national and Shi'ite circles. A solution for the hostage issue should be through cooperation and coordination between Iran and Syria."

He said Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who has called for the release of Western hostages for humanitarian reasons, wanted to give Western states "a chance to review and change their aggressive policies towards Iran and the Muslims." Mussawi said relations between

Tehran and Washington would only be restored when Washington dropped its "aggressive

He said Hizbollah would not bend to Israel's demands for the release of three of its servicemen captured after the 1982 invasion

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) —

Pakistan has voiced deep concern

over Israeli plans to settle Jewish

immigrants from the Soviet Un-

A spokesman of the Pakistani

Foreign Office has said: "Pakis-

tan views with deep concern

Israeli plans to settle Jewish im-

in occupied Palestinian and Arab

was flagrant violation of interna-

tional law and would contravene

ber international commitments as

well as the United Nations resolu-

tions on the issue of Palestine and

tion or other supplies from the

United States since last summer.

The State Department rejects the

complaint, saying each of the

seven Mujahedeen groups re-

But some members of Con-

gress are championing NIFA's

cause. In two recent letters to

President George Bush, a group

of lawmakers led by Congress-

man Don Ritter urged the admi-

In response to the lawmakers'

first letter, National Security

Adviser Brent Scowcroft wrote in

December that the allegations of

discrimination against certain fac-

tions had been investigated and

"to the extent they existed,

The lawmakers disagreed. The

picture we are receiving from

official U.S. government chan-

nels... appears to be different

than the many reliable reports,

fresh from the field, that are

coming from important segments

Min./max. temp. 5 / 20

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nistration to investigate.

(were) corrected.

ceives what it should.

He said that the Israeli plan

ion in the occupied Palestine.

Pakistan voices concern

over Jewish immigration

dom for Hizbollah Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, kidnapped by an Israeli commando unit in July

In Tehran, a group of Iranian deputies has asked the Foreign Ministry to deny rumours that Iran was engaged in secret negotiations for the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon, Tehran Radio reported Tuesday.

"The statement called on Foreign Ministry officials to adopt a clear stand in response to the recent propaganda and rumours about Iran's secret talks on the Western hostages, and to confirm that Iran was not involved in the issue of the Western hostages," the radio said.

The statement, backed by more than 170 deputies condemning what they called "mass media propaganda," was read out in parliament Monday, according to Tehran Radio, which was monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

The group objected to the separation of the fate of the 17 Western hostages from the problems of Lebanon.

"The arrogant mass media's propaganda in separating the fate of the Western hostages from the problems of Lebanon is strongly condemned," the statement said

Tehran Radio said it referred to reports that four Iranians missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon had been killed. "The deputies stated that the United States and its elements are to blame for anything that befalls these hostages," it said.

Three Iranians and their Lebanese driver were seized at a Christian militia checkpoint in

The deputies asked the Foreign Ministry to investigate the fate of

The spokesman said, "Pakistan

calls upon the international com-

munity to prevent Israel from

implementing its illegal plans and actions aimed at perpetuating its

occupation of Palestinian and

has instructed its permanent rep-

resentative to the U.N. to partici-

pate in the forthcoming Security

Council debate on the object, and

to express Pakistan's strong

opposition to Israeli moves to

settle Jewish immigrants in the

occupied territories," he added.

of the Afghan resistance," they

They urged an end to the

Pakistanis' control over the

weapons "and an equitable dis-

tribution of military supplies to

the most strategic, combat-

effective and moderate elements

Saljuqi said that in order to

break the stalemate in the fight-

ing against the Kabul govern-

ment, his guerrillas need

shoulder-fired, Stinger anti-

Barnett Rubin, an Afghanistan

specialist at the congressionally

funded U.S. Institute of Peace,

said NIFA has been getting a bad

deal both from the Pakistanis and

the Saudis. He said Saudi Arabia,

which provides about two-thirds of

the estimated \$700 million the

Mujahedeen got last year, does not like NIFA "because the

Saudis believe it is too close to

ition, mortar shells and

of the Afghan resistance."

Arab territories."

wrote back.



AID TO ETHIOPIAN REBELS AREAS: A pilot convoy of 12 relief trucks crossed military lines in northern Ethiop start an operation aimed at feeding a million starving peasa rebel-held areas. Ethiopia's Soviet-backed government and the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) have given their at for the scheme but it will not benefit from any formal ceasefire in the civil war. Soviet-built MiG fighter bombers of the Ethiopian Air Force flew overhead and an armoured car rombled up the road minutes before the convoy, carrying 120 tennes of grain, crossed into rebel-held areas. The photograph shows a father holding his injured son in the war-torn Tigray province.

New shelling threatens **Sudan aid operations**

KHARTOUM (R) — An aid operation to save hundreds of thousands of Sudanese from possible starvation has been threatened by renewed shelling on the southern capital Juba, refugees arriving in the capital

year-old war between rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and government troops said Juba was hit by another wave of shelling last Fri-

Six people were killed and nine others were injured in the sevenhour barrage, they said. Casual-ties included soldiers and civilians. Most shells hit res areas near Juba airport.

In Nairobi, a relief official said rebels fired rockets into the town killing eight people and des-troying about a dozen houses.

Bob Koepp, coordinator of the Lutheran World Federation's (LWF) Southern Sudan Programme, said he had reports rebels launched rockets at Juba from about a kilometre away on the east bank of the Nile.

They were apparently aimed at the airport but landed in a nearby camp for displaced people, Koepp told Reuters. At least five of those killed were on a feeding centre in the camp.

Koepp, whose charity makes daily relief flights from Nairobi to Juba, said the LWF's Hercules C-130 transport plane was leaving the town after making its first delivery when the attack began and did not return that afternoon because the airport was closed. But apart from the one missed flight, the plane had now re-sumed normal deliveries. Koepp

There was no immediate word from the government or the SPLA on the attack, the most serious in two months on Juba. whose normal population of 100,000 has been swollen to 300,000 by an influx of refugees from other parts of the troubled

The town's overland links have been cut since September 1988 and the population is currently surviving on LWF flights with the Hercules and a chartered Boeing 707 which deliver around 65 tonnes of food a day.

The SPLA's number three commander, Lam Akol, told Michael Priestley, director of the U.N. relief programme called Operation Lifeline Sudan, in Addis Ababa Saturday that the rebels would not allow flights until more aid was allocated to areas under their control, relief sources said.

Relief sources in Addis Ababa said earlier the U.N. provisionalagreed with the two weeks ago that 50,000 tonnes of food would go to areas under government control. 16 000 toppes to SPLA areas and 12.000 tonnes held in reserve.

The SPI A's new hostile attitude comes as the U.N. was poised to launch the delayed programme after overcoming objections from Khartoum. Last week U.N. officials in

Khartoum said it would begin within two weeks after the government dropped demands that officials search relief planes flying into rebel-held areas from Kenya and Uganda.

General Omar Hassan Al Bashir's government had accused relief workers of smuggling arms to the SPLA, fighting what they see as domination of the Christian and animist south by the Muslim Arabised north.

Operation Lifeline got over 100,000 tonnes of food into the south last year and relief officials said this prevented a repeat of the 1988 famine which killed 250,000

The latest plan involves moving more than 100,000 tonnes of aid, mainly food, to the south by air, road, rail, and river.

Representatives of the government, the U.N. and donor nations were due to meet in Khartourn on March 26 to endorse and launch Operation Lifeline.

Baker hopes for progress on Middle East peace

(USIA) — Secretary of State James Baker hopes Israel's new government will give a "positive answer" to the real question of "do we move forward to peace?" in the Middle East.

He spoke with reporters aboard his plane en route to Cavenne from Washington. After refuelling, Baker flew on to Ascension Island and Windhock, Baker said he could not pre-

sume to speak for caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir when he was asked if President Bush's remarks about East Jerusalem "scared off" Shamir or if he thought the Israeli leader never intended to move forward to implement the five-point framework advanced by Baker as a means of establishing a dialogue between Israel and Palestinian representatives. Shamir's government fell last week when it failed to win a parliamentary vote of

"I think the Israeli Knesset focused on what the real issue is here," Baker said, "and the real issue here is do we move forward

CAYENNE, French Guiana to peace? That, after all, was the question that was before the Knesset, and that is the question that remains," he said.

"We hope that an Israeli government will emerge that will enable us to continue to move the process forward," the secretary said. "Notwithstanding the fact that we have as yet not been abie to take the next step - the foreign ministers meeting - or more to the dialogue in Cairo, I think we do have a situation here where Palestinians have indicated a greater willingness than they

have in the past to take this step. "And I'm very hopeful that we will see a government emerge in Israel that will want to take this step," Baker said. What happens now, he added, is really a matter for the Israelis to determine. They've got certain procedures and we will be watching as those procedures develop."

Baker said he was "still honeful that we will receive a positive answer," noting "that, as they have indicated in Israel, while we didn't get a positive answer, we did not get a negative answer

Algeria adopts new information law, amends electoral code

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has passed a press law breaking the state's long monopoly on the media and providing jail terms for journalists who deliberately write wrong information damaging state security or national uni-

The law is a key element of liberal political reforms designed to end 27 years of one-party rule, guarantee freedom of expression and lay the groundwork for multiparty elections.

But it has angered journalists and the state daily Al Moudjahid commented Tuesday "democracy has stumbled."

Defending the law to reporters after its adoption late Monday, assembly Spokesman Abdul Aziz Belkhadem said it guaranteed free access to sources of information and freedom of expression in accordance with the constitution. It also allows private groups and individuals to set up their

sion stations. These clauses are revolutionary ence in 1962 has kept the media under tight control of the government and the ruling National

newspapers and radio and televi-

Liberation Front (FLN). But journalists have expressed anger over provisions that set jail terms of five to 10 years for anyone who deliberately writes "wrong or tendentious informa-

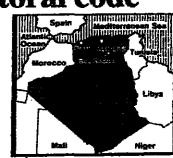
tion harmful to state security or national unity." Illustrations and information contrary to Islamic morality or national values are banned, along with attempts to excuse "racism, fanaticism or treachery." The right to professional secrecy is not

recognised where economic or defence "secrets" are concerned. "Journalists are extremely disappointed," said one Al Mondjahid writer and member of the

Movement of Algerian Journalists, the largest journalists' union. The new law reads more like a penal code. It is harmful both to the profession and to the emerg-

ing democracy," he told Reuters. The law provides for setting up an independent higher information council that will regulate the media after the abolition last September of the Ministry of Information. The council is to be composed

of 12 members, three named by the president of the republic, three by the National Assembly president and six elected by jour-



In a move to boost the use of Arabic, suppressed during 132 years of French colonial rule, the law says new publications in any other language need the council's nthorisation.

Algeria has amended its electoral law by adopting a proportional representation system, less than three months before the

first multi-party elections since independence in 1962. State-owned newspapers Tuesday quoted Interior Minister Mohammad Salah Mohammedi as saying the amendment, passed

by the National Assembly Monday, was aimed at achieving ider representation of political parties in elected assemblies. Some opposition leaders have applauded the new rules but ac-

cused the FLN of changing them in its favour at the last minute. Algeria embraced multi-party democracy last year and 21 opposition parties have since then legalised to compete in local and

provincial elections on June 12. The opposition is trying to put pressure on the government to delay the elections to give it more

time to prepare. Under the new rules, the party that wins an absolute majority of votes takes a proportional number of seats, instead of all the

seats under the old system. If no party wins an absolute majority, the winning party takes half the seats, and the rest are distributed in proportion to votes among parties that polled at least

seven per cent. Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche has said the change was designed to give smaller parties 🎥 voice in elected assemblies and guarantee the FLN a foothold in districts where it was a minority.

The powerful fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) is widely expected to capture a number of town and provincial governments. But the new rules will make it difficult for either the FIS or the FLN to take over an elected assembly completely.

meeting in Helsinki, Finland, Saljuqi's complaint highlights

JORDAN TELEVISION Td: 773111-19 PROGRAMME ONE

Local progra 20:00 20:30 News in Arabic 21:30 PROGRAMME TWO

Laura and Disorder . Doc. "Path of the Rain God"

News in French

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CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swei Tel. 310740 Assemblies of God Church,	•
632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Ameunciation 637440. De in Saile Church Tel. 661757	Tel.
Terrasunta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Antenneiation 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 625383,	
628543. Armenian Catholic Church '771331. Armenian Orthodox Church '775761.	
St. Ephrain Church Tel. 771751 Annua International Church 68326. Evangelical Lutherny Church	Tcl.
811295. The Church of Jesus Christ of La Day Salata Tel. 81,5817, 654932.	ika-

WEATHER

Amman 22 per cent, Aquiba 10 per **USEFUL TELEPHONE** NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Issam Hawamdeh Dr. Issam Anbaki 674830 Dr. Fayez Jallouga Dr. Khaled Ma'adi 624207 Fires Parenacy Ferdows pharmacy 661912

ELERGENCIES

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Civil Defence Immediate
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Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Compleints
T-1-1-1-1-1-1
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amester Telephone
COMM VIRNINI Telebrone
Repairs
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661 101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101 Jordan Television
Radio Jordan 774111
Kauk Joices//4111
Water Authority
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381

HOSPITALS

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AMMAN

AMMAN:
Hassein Medical Centre 813813/3
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281
Akilch Maternity, J. Ann 642441
Jabel America Maternity 64236
Malhas, J. Ammar 63614
Palestine, Shancisani 664171
Shipeisani Hospifal
University Hospital 8458
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Al-Muscher Hospital 667227
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/
Al-Abli, Abdeli 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/
Army, Marka 891611/
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/
Arnal Hospital 67415
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)9833
Zarça National Hospital (09)9910
Iba Sina Hospital(09)98673
RED:
Princes Basma Hospital (02)2755
Greek Catholic Homital (02)2727
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)2722 Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)2471
AOARA:
AUADA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

RJ Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

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FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it

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69:00 Deznascus (RJ)
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19:90 Jeddah, Aqaba (R.)
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10:30 Montreal, New York (RJ)
17:00 Riyadh (R.)
17:29 Brussels, Paris (RI)
17:46 Vienna, Belgrade (RJ) 17:55 London, Frankfurt (RJ)
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DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Fiights (Terminal 1)

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Benana (Mukammar)	400 / 350-
Beans	750 / 700.
Cabbage	80 / 40
	160 / 100
Cauliflower	200 / 150
Cocumbers (large)	200 / 150
Cacambers (small)	380 / 320
D3062 ***** :	500 / 400
Eggplant	240 / 180
Carne	700 / 600
Grapefreit	260 / 220

MARKET PRICES

Cacambors (small)	380 / 320
	500 / 400
Egginal	240 / 180
Gartic	700 / 600
Grapefreit	250 / 220
Lemon	
Latter (man on a)	250 / 200
Lettace (per one)	100 / 80
Marrow (large)	120 / 80
marridge (SEESE!)	200 / 160
Oniou (dry)	270 / 220
Omon (green)	180 / 120
CTABLE	329 / 290
Orange (Shamouti)	340 / 280
PCPDCR (201)	900 / 800
reper (secci)	460 / 400
COMPO	220 / 170
KARONA	150 / 100
OFFE TANAMAN PARTIES	400 / 350
3pm23	160 / 120
Tourstoes	180 / 150
	AWY - MET

Arab apathy has delayed integration

Economist blames industrial nations for Third World plight

AMMAN (Petra) — A leading Arab economist has blamed the deterioration of Third World economics on the policies adopted by the industrialised nations and said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was supporting these nations against the poorer countries of the world.

Dr. Munir Hamarneh, speaking at a seminar on Arab and international economic cooperation Monday at the Royal Cultural Centre, said that the industrialised nations were selling their manufactured products at very high prices to the developing world, resulting in increased bor-rowing and the accumulation of foreign debts by Third World

Hamaineh, who works for the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), accused the IMF of siding with the rich nations and helping them impose their conditions and terms on the poor countries, thus contributing to the aggravation of their plight.

In the early 1980s, the United

further progress and prosperity.

expertise in these fields.

Ershad cables good wishes

Regent congratulates Ben Ali

Tunisian people further progress and prosperity.

JPF announces 20% dividend

Cabinet approves EC loan accord

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) — Bangladeshi President Hussein Ershad

Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to His Majesty King Hussein while flying over Jordanian airspace. The president wished King

Hussein good health and happiness and the Jordanian people

AMMAN (Petra) -- His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan,

the Regent, Tuesday sent a cable of congratulation to Tunisian

President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali congratulating him on the

occasion of Tunisia's national day anniversary. The Crown Prince

wished the president continued good health and happiness and the

AMMAN (Petra) - The Cabinet has endorsed a loan agreement

with the European Community (EC), whereby the EC will provide Jordan with one million European Currency Units (ECU) towards

financing costs of geological projects being carried out by the

Natural Resources Authority. The project includes prospection for

copper, sulphur and other mineral resources. The Cabinet also

approved the executive programme of cultural and educational

cooperation between Jordan and Oman during the next five years. The agreement provides for promoting and enhancing bilateral cooperation in the educational and cultural fields and exchange of

AMMAN (J.T.) — The general assembly of the Jordan Press

Foundation (JPF) Company Limited held a meeting Tuesday under the chairmanship of Mahmoud Al Kayed, the chairman of the board of directors, and discussed and approved the board's annual

report and the audit report and the final account. The assembly

also agreed to distribute 20 per cent dividend and assigned Messrs Fahed Al Fanek and Co. as anditors for the company for 1990.

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consignment of Canadian wheat worth \$1.75

million will soon arrive at Aqaba port as a gift to the Jordanian

people from the government of Canada, according to Canadian

embassy sources. The consignment of 6,400 tonnes is due to arrive

in Aqaba Thursday, and will be handed over to the Ministry of

WHAT'S GOING ON

time and place with the concerned institutions.

University of Jordan Mosque — 6:00 p.m.

Nabahneh at the Housing Bank Complex.

spening ceremony at 4:00 p.m.).

Foundation (18 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

the Royal Cultural Centre.

Centre.

— 8:00 р.м.

6:60 p.m.

D.E.

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and

the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed

THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR

SUPPORTING THE INTIFADA

* Exhibitions of Palestinian heritage and photos of the intifada at

* A public rally at Terrace Hall International, opposite the

EXHIBITIONS

☆ Exhibition of plastic artists Arij Al Hamad and Ibrahim Al

* Art exhibition by seven Iraci artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman

Art exhibition entitled "Spanish contemporary engravings" at

Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural

THEATRE

* Arabic puppet play entitled "Fables from my Grandmother's Chest" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

* Piano concert by Walid Hourani at the Royal Cultural Centre

LECTURES

A Lecture in Arabic by Dr. George Attiveh, head of the Middle

* Lecture in Arabic by Minister of Supply Nabii Abui Huda on Sobeldy Policy in Jordan" at the Royal Cultural Centre -

× Lecture in Arabic by Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Fawzi, former Egyptian war minister, entitled "New Facts on the Attrition War (1968-70)" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:00

FILM

University of Jordan's Faculty of Arts - 4:00 p.m.

East section of the United States Library of Congress, on "the collections on Islam at the Library of Congress" at the

Al Razi hall, the Professional Associations Complex (the

Jordan gets \$1.75m in Canadian wheat

States raised interest on deposits from 6.5 per cent to 20 per cent, causing the immediate flight of funds from the developing countries to Western banks, which used them in new investments. "This benefitted the wealthy nations and deprived the poor ones of funds for development," Hamarneh pointed out.

He called on the industialised nations to help the developing countries boost their economic activities and develop their resources so that they can pay back

Referring to the CAEU and inter-Arab economic cooperation, Hamarneh said that the 1980 Amman summit endorsed a pan-Arab economic strategy to be implemented through the CAEU but "Nothing has been achieved and not a single step was taken to formulate this strategy."

He blamed "selfishness on the part of Arab countries" and "indifference towards pan-Arab cooperation" for the delay in action in this regard.

Also addressing the seminar, organised by the Arab Women Graduates Club, was Dr. Rafiq Omar from the Arab Cooperation Council's (ACC) generalsecretariat. He outlined the general economic situation in the world and pointed out the difficulties encountred by the Arab

He said the Gulf war, the Lebanese crisis, and Israel's continued aggression on the Arab Nation as well as the Arab states' indebtedness were overburdening the Arab Nation.

Tunisian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Al Habib told the Gulf Cooperation Council were deemed necessary to normalise inter-Arab economic cooperation and organise relations with the European Com-

The ambassador underlined the need for maintaining dialogue with the European Community in order to bolster the Arab Nation's economy and to win European support for the Palestinian

Canada

course

conclude

AMMAN (J.T.) - The second

three-week course on manage-

ment of airline commercial ser-

vices and computer applications

course, organised by the

Montreal-based International

Aviation Management Training

Institute (IAMTI), in association

with Royal Jordanian Airlines

The objective of the course is

to provide airline managers with

the skills and knowledge in the

use of the personal desk-top com-

puter as a cost effective manage-

ment tool and its specific applica-

tions in the airline industry.

has ended March 19.

RJ,



AMMAN (J.T.) - Four testtube babies were born five weeks ago at Khalidi Hospital in Amman, according to Dr. Zaid Kilani, director of the Jordan Infertility Centre.

Kilani said the quadruplets were born to a 30-year-old woman, who was infertile for eight years after her marriage.

Contrary to expectations, Kilani said, the delivery took place smoothly and the woman had a normal delivery without resorting to caesarian section. The four babies, two boys and two girls, were born after the seventh month with weights ranging between 1000 and 1500

Jordan will recognise accounting certificates

By Odeh Odeh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Jordan will recognise certificates awarded by the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA), which organises training and examinations for accountants in the Arab World.

The decision was announced by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, upon opening the second Arab international accounting conference at Amman Plaza Hotel Tuesday.

"The society's examinations and certificates for certified accountants will be a prerequisite for accountants to practice the profession in Jordan," Prince Hassan said.

Underlining the importance of the conference, the Regent said that it was being held at a time when Arab countries are pursuing economic development. "Jordan is open to all meetings

that can enrich knowledge and promote inter-Arab understanding and cooperation for modernisation," the Regent said.

Conference Chairman Talal Abu Ghazaleh delivered a speech in which he paid tribute to Jordan's role in inter-Arab economic cooperation. Nearly 400 accountants from the

Arab World and foreign countries are attending the three-day conference, which will review working papers on experiments in the participating countries.

Chairman of the Jordan Audit

Bureau and Audit Profession Dr. Hashim Dabbas is among Jordanians attending the conference along with delegates from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and North Yemen.

The conference was organised by the Arab Thought Forum and

The meeting is also attended by representatives of several major Arab organisations.

development in aviation safety. The King, whose address was delivered by his political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, said that he trusted that the Arab Air Carrier

safety with particular stress on

the human element in all opera-

tions. It also touches on measures

to be adopted in safety against

incidents as well as training of

manpower and innovation and

not risk safety, King says

Organisation (AACO) would continue to be a model to all Arab carriers in the field of aviation safety. "Royal Jordanian has taken

an initiative in this sensitive area by organising this conference and will continue with solid steps in this respect," the King added.

King Hussein expressed appreciation to the Flight Safety Foundation for its dedicated efforts in organising the conference with RJ to discuss "a very vital issue which is considered the backbone of the airline industry."

The conference, organised by the U.S.-based Flight Safety RJ Board Chairman Khaldoun Foundation and Royal Jordanian (RJ), opened Tuesday and is Abu Hassan told the conference that civil air transport has all being held under the slogan; along been the model of interna-"Multiple Dimensions of Aviational cooperation," and the presence of so many participants Participants in the three-day from various countries representconference are expected to dising aircraft manufacturers, airline cuss topics related to aviation operators and regulatory agencies

He said the participants' efforts during the conference would be directed towards improving aviation safety which is a common goal for all.

"Commercial aviation is the safest form of travel available anywhere today and aircraft are safer than cars," Abu Hassan

He said: "Based on data from the National Safety Council. flying in a commercial aircraft was 19 times safer than travelling the same distance by car and that less than one per cent of all transportation fatalities involved commercial aircraft."

RJ President and Chief Executive Officer Husam Abu Ghazaleh said RJ believes that safety is an investment and a high-cost effective approach in assuring the viability of its mission. He thanked AACO for promoting aviation safety and planning to produce an exemplary safety programme for the Middle East region.

Delegates from all Arab airlines are taking part in the conference, which will be addressed by experts from national airlines in Australia, Europe, the U.S., Africa and the Arab World.

Jordan, Egypt discuss electric grid connections

CAIRO (Agencies) — Jordan and Egypt Tuesday hold talks designed to bolster bilateral cooperation in energy and mineral resources fields with particular stress on electric power intercon-

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty

King Hussein said Tuesday that change and expansion in aviation

industry in the Middle East were

occurring at a fast pace and

efforts should be directed at en-

suring that these developments

guarantee aviation safety as the first priority.

In a keynote address to the first

regional aviation safety confer-

ence, King Hussein said: "Each and every individual and party

involved in aviation tasks should

willingly assume a dedicated role

to improve on aviation safety and

must handle all relevant matters

through knowledge, training, and sound industrial relations." He

said that accident prevention

should remain the primary objec-

tive and can be realised when

internal safety policies are estab-

lished, maintained and im-

tion Safety."

The talks were conducted by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher and his Egyptian counterpart Maher Abaza. The two ministers were accompanied by senior officials and experts in energy and electricity matters.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the two sides will review protocols on bilateral cooperation in energy-related fields and the linkage of the two countries' national grids which will take place with a four-year project ending in 1993. The two sides, the agency said, will review steps taken in the implementation of the project.

In statements at the opening session, both ministers stressed that the linkage will be an initial step, to be followed by linking the two countries' grids with those of Syria, Iraq and Turkey.

Abaza said this network would later be linked to the Arab Gulf region, and in 1995, with Libya and the Arab Maghreb Union, which also groups Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania. The Arab grids, he said, will then be linked to those of Europe through Tunisia which will link with Italy and Morocco which will

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development signed in Amman on cooperation (AFESD) last year agreed to in electricity fields.

link with Spain.

provide \$170 million to help finance the Jordanian-Egyptian national grid linkage project; and in January 1990 it announced its approval of providing funds to finance linking the power grids of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Syria and Turkey.

After their meeting in Cairo, Taher and Abaza were received by Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sidki whom they briefed on the outcome of their meetings.

The two sides announced after the meeting that agreement was reached to open talks among the members of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which groups Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen, to pave the ground for an agreement to be

Renowned pianist pertorms in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Renowned pianist Walid Hourani will perform tonight at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

Awarded the Certificate of Honour at the International Tchaikowsky Competition at the age of eighteen and the Laureate in the Queen Elizabeth of Belgium Competition two years later, Walid Raja Hourani estabfished his credentials early as a significant new talent. This was confirmed by subsequent concert tours in the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, East Germany, Belgium, Egypt and Lebanon, as well as in Canada and the United States where he has performed in over 100 cities.

Born in New York in 1948,

Walid was brought up in Beirut, where at the age of 13 he came to the attention of Soviet Armenian composer Aram Khachaturian. who was responsible for his receiving scholarships to study at Moscow's famed Central Music School from which he graduated with high distinction. Following this he studied at the Tchaikowsky Conservatory for seven years for his Master's Degree and other postgraduate work under the celebrated pianists Yakov Saka and Emil Gilels.

Hourani has received international acclaim.

His programme includes Sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven and Gelalian and a Ballad and a Waltz by Chopin.

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Date: Wednesday, March 21, 1990 Time: 7:00 p.m. (You are cordially requested to arrive at the theatre by 6:45 p.m.)

Place: RAINBOW CINEMA Jabal Amman, 1st Circle Flim to be shown:

[TORA-SAN'S FORBIDDEN LOVE]

— Colour

Running time: 107 mins.

NOTE: Film is subtitled in Arabic Admission free (no ticket issued).





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By Dr. Abdaila Malki

Jordan Times

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Baker or Shas? the question is peace

ON the surface, it appears that it is the religious parties, particularly, the Shas faction, which holds the key in the engoing efforts to form a new government in Israel. But, in essence, it is the Middle East peace process, notably U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposal for Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, that is determining the course of the formation of a new Israeli government. Shas ang the course of the formation of a new israel government. Sums spiritual leader Rabbi Ovadiah Yosef summed it up all on Sunday when he described Shamir's policies as "inviting war and bloodshed upon Israel." He hit the nail on the head by adding: "How would I account standing in judgement before the Creator for the blood spilled without knowing I tried to avoid it?" Another Shas leader, Interior Minister Arych Deri, further accountated the peace process denominator by declaring on Monday that his party's possible support for a Likud-led government hinged on such a coalition accepting the Baker proposal. Therefore, it follows that whoever forms the next Israeli government will have to be supportive of efforts for peace in general and the Baker proposal in

With such positive developments brought in by the demise of the "national unity condition" led by Shamir, there is room for optimism about peace prospects in the Middle Rast; for, more than ever, the region appears to be on the brink of a real breakthrough provided that the fragile process continues to be nursed by all sides with care and delicacy. However, this does not mean that the road ahead will be smooth and well-paved for the principal players in the conflicts. Rather, it is only a suggestion that an opportunity of a lifetime for peace has finally presented itself. It would be relatively easy and quite tempting to start finding shortcomings in the ongoing process since what is on the table now is far short of what the Arab side yearns for. Nevertheless, there is a great deal that could be constructed upon what is now available and it would be short-sighted to turn it down simply because it is not

Both the Arabs and the Israelis have already paid dearly for came up before had fully met their expectations or hopes. It is high time therefore to comprehend that no nation on earth can ever hope to realise its full aspirations in one leap. The history of the Middle East, particularly that of the Palestinian problem, has been a long series of missed opportunities. To paraphrase an old proverb, "it is wiser to see the needle with a hole in it rather than seeing the hole in the needle."

The Arab side has indeed changed its perspective on the peace process. To cite but a few examples of this evolution, suffice it to recall the unwavering Arab commitment to U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the consistent Arab call for an international peace conference and the Arab acceptance in principle of the Baker formula. Now, it is up to the Israelis to reciprocate this position by a fundamental change in their country's policies on war and peace in the region. The fall of the right-wing Likud-led government in Israel and the growing signs that the peace process will determine the fate of a new government there are enough evidence that the quest for peace in the Middle East may finally be on the right track.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

SHIMON Peres, who is expected to form a new Israeli government has stated that he will accept the Baker plan, but failed to announce any other move to help end the deadlock in the peace process, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily in its editorial Tuesday. The paper said that Peres also failed to promise any thing about granting the Palestinians their right and failed also to accept the concept of exchanging land for peace with the Arab states. Therefore, one can conclude that Peres' pledge to achieve peace remains vague and could be a mere trick in the course of his Labour Party's ploy to win the votes of the electorate and the support of religious parties, the paper noted. It is therefore difficult to feel assured that a real chance now exists for peace under a Labour-led government in Israel, and the Arab countries should remain vigilant and go ahead with plans to mobilise their resources and their efforts to deal with all the challenges and the threats that are posed to their countries, the paper added. The Arabs, it said, should not harbour any optimism based only on the statements of Israeli politicians, now vying for leadership. The paper said that serious preparations should be made for an Arab summit meeting as soon as possible because at such a meeting plans can be made for dealing with all aspects related to the question of settlement in the Middle East and the danger of Jewish immigrants settling in Arab lands. At the same time, the paper noted, the Palestinian uprising will require real support more than at any time in the past, because it is this uprising which is disturbing the Zionists and bringing deep changes in the Israeli

A columnist in A! Ra'i daily said Tuesday that the financial committee in the Lower House of Parliament has exercised some form of pressure on the House, forcing it to call for a closed rather than an open session Tuesday to discuss the questions of corruption and national debts. Salah Abdul Samuel says that the committee presented the House with a choice of accepting a condensed report about the two questions should the session be held openly, and a detailed one if the session were to be open to the public. The writer says that the information gathered by the committee should not be considered as a private property, but rather the property of the whole Jordanian people; and it is the people's right to get access to the facts. The way the committee dealt with the situation is rather strange, and should not be allowed to continue nor should any information be withheld from the public, the writer continues. It is indeed hoped that the House will declare all the information gathered by the committee and will prevent any of its committees from imposing similar conditions on future debates, he concludes.

Economic Forum

Inflation, salary and wage increases

THE general price level always creeps upwards. It is only at very rare junctures such as ions and the aftermaths of war that it might slide back in a sustained manner. Once the flames of inflation erupt, it is pretty hard to put them out.

The lost equilibrium: Defined as the persistent increase in prices, inflation is a result of disequilibrium between aggregate demand and aggregate supply. Whatever measures are taken to tackle inflation, they should eventually lead to the restoration of the lost equilibrium if they are to be successful. Obviously, this is done through curtailing demand or boosting supply.

As for the first option, what we do first is to wipe out excessive demand. If that does not suffice, more demand will have to be suppressed.

Trespassing red lines: Sup-ressing demand means getting nto austerity zones. There are red lines beyond which austerity cannot proceed without

sparking certain public reac-tions. At some point, austerity exhausts the tolerance of the people and this might invite adverse, not to say catastrophic, economic results. The problem here is that technicians tend to ignore these limits and they even provide very smart arguments to justify that ignorance. When the turmoil starts, they withdrew calmly and innocently and leave it to the politicians to redress the com-

plicated situation.
Social attitudes: Economic measures are applied to environments heavily charged with social attitudes which must be treated as a dynamic variable. True they do change slowly but this does not transform them into a static variable. In politics, oppressive regimes may be able to dictate the nature and course of events but not in economics. You cannot force consumers to like a certain product, labourers to increase production, dealers not to speculate against the local

currency, investors to brighten their outlook and citizens to bring their money back home. The message here is that economic policy-makers should reconsider their policy measures every now and then, in the light of the reaction of the social environment to these measures and they should do so at the right time.

Freezing wages and salaries: It is therefore prudent to couple boosting supply with control on demand. More supply means more production, whether through the employ ment of more factors of production or improving productivity. More production is actually the elixir to all econo-

Wage increases — inevitable: If these formulae work, prices will be stabilised at a new level which is higher than the level that prevailed before the eruption of inflation. But wages and salaries will still be at their old level. Economic policies endeavour to freeze salaries

and wages lest any increases add to demand and thereby fuel further bursts of inflation. Such policies may be successful; they have been so in the particular case of Jordan, so far at least.

But then this is a tentative solution designed to give breathing space to economic adjustment policies and enable them to work. Labourers accept freeze on wages and salaries on the implicit promise that they will be fairly raised later on . You cannot halve the real incomes of the populace, as we did overnight in Jordan when we devalued the dinar, then ask the labour force to accept the frozen wages for years and years. Something has to be done in order to compensate them for the drop in real income. If prices, with the best of adjustment and correction policies, are to be maintained, at best at the lofty plateau to which they were pushed by the pre-mentioned disequilibrium between demand and supply,

then proportionate wage and salary increases will have to take place in order to restore "social" equilibrium. Therefore wage increases are a must beyond the short term, and the question is when they will come not whether they are coming or not.

Officials are working hard to keep wages of public sector employees at bay. This will not only contribute to controlling the notorious budget deficit, which is an essential part of the so-called national correction programme, but will also have the added advantage of discouraging similar increases in the private sector. If government employees get a raise, a few private firms can afford not to give similar raises to their employees.

Thorny problem both ways: The increase in wages and salaries is a very thorny issue. As things stand now, an increase poses a problem and a no-increase poses another one

as well. The safe solution that works to the advantage of all parties seems to be the old elixir of more production. The adjustment programme envisaged under the agreement with IMF should see to it that investment is accorded ample care and that none of its components hampers investment. This is not taken for granted yet and we have not seen signs that testify to it. Actually there are signs to the contrary. Example: the stipulated income tax in-

Editor's note: A line that drop ped out from last Wednesday column, paragraph 5, had dis-torted the intended meaning. The original text reads as follows (with the missing line between brackets): Obviously, services constitute a great import-substitution potential and can, if properly tapped, make (a very valuable contribution to the relaxation of the) foreign exchange constraint..

Algerians debate tourism

By Shirley Eber

ALGERIA is a young country suffering all the pains of growing up. It is only 27 years since the long and bitter struggle to gain independence from French colonialism, and with 75 per cent of the population under the age of 25, the problems it faces are formidable. And yet, the most frequent catchphrase heard from everyone, everywhere is pas de probleme — no problem!

My first encounter with this national refrain is on arrival at Houari Boumedienne Airport. The immigration official sniffs and frowns at my entry card, on which I've written "journalist" as my profession, and asks who I write for. My reply "free-lance" doesn't impress and wordlessly he walks off with my passport. A while later, he reappears with another, obviously more senior. official. I repeat what I've already said, this time supplementing my French with Arabic. This doesn't help much. What's the matter? Pas de probleme. Despite the recent liberalisations in the country, some warinesses die hard. I volunteer the information that I'm a participant at a conference on alternative tourism hosted by the Algerian government, but this just seems to complicate matters. An Algerian who has arrived on the same flight from London shouts over to me: "Now you know what it feels like at Heathrow!" What can I say but "yes"? But I am luckier than either he or his friend who was refused entry into the U.K. altogether, because by now a Ministry of Tourism representative has turned up to meet me. His contribution to the discussion? Pas de probleme. And indeed, there is none, for after more debate I'm eventually allowed through.

Every visitor to Algeria must declare the foreign currency and valuables they bring into the country, and must change a minimum of 1500 dinars (about £125) at the official rate. Any discrepancy between the amount declared and that changed may have to be explained on leaving the country. My representative seems to be hinting that I should declare less than I have, but I'm just too relieved to be there at all to take much of it in. All becomes clearer the following morning. A taxi driver offers me a free lift into town. I don't understand. After all, driving taxis is his job. On the way down, through the overburdened streets of this once-grand city, he furtively offers me twice the official rate for hard currency - any denomination, any amount will do. Over the next week, this rampant black market becomes a frequent topic of conversation for the conference delegates. Everyone, everywhere, is offered better and better deals, one three times, another four or even five times the official rate.

Problems of transport, accommodation and unemployment, coupled with shortages of consumer goods, spare parts and basic foodstuffs, led to tensions which finally erupted in October 1988.

The uprising, locally referred to as "les evenements", has had some profound effects on Algerian society, similar to those taking place in Eastern Europe. The domination of the Front de Liberation National (FLN) is now giving way, with new parties springing up by the day. The constitution is under review and is a matter for open debate. A new press code has been rejected as too restrictive by the Algerian Journalists' Movement and is currently being redrafted. There are new newspapers and journals and a new-found freedom to criticise. In Algeria, it is current affairs and news programmes, rather than the latest episode of Dallas, that clear the streets. Algerians' search to redefine their identity, on a social as well as political level, is epitomised by two opposite and conflicting trends; on the one hand, there is an evident rise in Islamic sentiments, as manifested by the attempts of the FIS (Front Islamique de Salut) to impose shari'a law and to reverse the advances made in the field of women's rights; and on the other hand there is Rai music.

Rai is a mix of traditional Algerian music with Western pop, Jazz, and reggae influences, that originated in the west Algerian coastal town of Oran. The music, with its irresistible dance beat, has gained much popularity in the West and I wanted to hear some in its country of origin. My naive inquiries were most often met by shocked disapproval, ranging from "Oh no, I don't listen to Rai at all", to "Oh no, I don't listen to Rai in the presence of my sister or mother", to "It's the music of alcoholics or drug addicts", to "It's not really Algerian and besides, it's vulgar."

Disapproval seems to be centred less on what is said than on the way the young singers sing it, on their explicit lyrics bared of the poetic metaphors of traditional Arab music, and on Rai's sensual rhythms. As such, even though comparatively few of the songs address such problems as housing or employment or the gulf between the rich and poor, Rai is clearly a sort of protest expressing the discontent of the young and disaffected in search of an identity of their owh.

Our conference on alternative tourism was another symptom of this search. Clearly, the Algerians want to open up their country to Western tourism - and Western investment. With its miles of virgin beach, spectacular mountain ranges, health spas, Roman ruins and the awesome Sahara desert with its prehistoric cave drawings, Algeria has great potential as a tourist destination. But the Algeirans are also aware of the damage that mass tourism can cause. After days of discussion, it seemed doubtful whether Algeria could manage to avoid the pitfalls of its neighbours and promote tourism while preserving its heritage, or even whether tourism really is the best answer to its problems. After years of fighting for independence, some Algerians see tourism as simply a new form of colonialism. As one Algerian journalist pointed out: "It's shameful for Algeria to count on tourism because the country is rich in petrol, gas, uranium and gold. At present, Algeria imports about 60 per cent of its food needs. Our need is not tourists, but to develop our agriculture to feed our people." Middle East International, London.

Dubcek is back as guarantor of Czechoslovak democracy

By Steve Kettle

PRAGUE - Alexander Dubcek, who personified "Socialism with a human face" only to be dragged off in handcuffs to Moscow as Soviet tanks occupied his country, is today a guardian of Czechoslovakia's return to demo-

Dubcek presides over parliament as it prepares Czechoslovakia's first free elections for almost haif a century.

His personal rehabilitation after 20 years of humiliation and political obscurity mirrors that of his country as it shakes off the shackles of Communism and isolation from the West.

"The most important task for

me and my colleagues is to secure the process of democratisation in all fields," Dubcek told Reuters in an interview as the federal assembly took a brief break from discussing the nation's precariou economic health.

"I see my personal task as leader of a legislative body as ensuring the irreversibility of the process of a return to Europe where Czechoslovakia is seeking its new place."

Dubcek, 68, became parliamentary chairman on December 28. He is second only to President Vaclav Havel both in Czechoslovakia's constitutional hierarchy and in personal pre-

stige.
Like Havel, whose whirlwind two months has taken him to the capitals of both superpowers and

key neighbouring countries, Dubcek can now travel after years of restrictions. He is taking the opportunity to help restore Czechoslovakia's standing abroad.

On Sunday he goes to Paris at the invitation of Laurent Fabius, chairman of France's national assembly, and a series of similar visits to other European countries is planned over the coming In January, the European Par-

awarded him a human rights The sallow features of old and a seemingly doleful expression remain, but are frequently trans-

liament in Strasbourg gave Dub-

formed into a beaming smile as Dubcek talks animatedly. The voice is still firm and full of conviction and the now grey hair and thick-rimmed spectacles reflect his role as a dignified elder

statesman. Until 10 weeks ago, he was living in retirement in Bratislava after years as a lowly forestry official following the crushing of his 1968 "Prague spring" reforms by Soviet-led tanks and his removal from power.

Dubcek was arrested by Soviet security forces in the early morning of August 21, 1968, when Warsaw Pact troops invaded the country to crush the reform movement he spearheaded.

He was flown in handcuffs to the Soviet Union and later on to Moscow where on August 27 he was forced to accept the dismantling of the reforms and the stationing of Soviet, troops in Czechoslovakia. Last November, he made ins

first public appearance for 20 years and received a rapturous welcome from pro-democracy demonstrators. The name Dubcek gave added emotional impetus to the wave of popular protest which then ousted Czechoslovakia's Communist rulers.

Dubcek said the hardliners

who succeeded him 21 years ago had in turn left behind them a "heritage of economic and moral cek a standing ovation as it losses and a spiritual devastation - all problems we have to cope

As a country with one of the most rigid foreign policies among Warsaw Pact states, Czechoslovakia also became more and more isolated internationally, resisting more openness in its society and the sort of changes inspired by Soviet leader Mikhail Gor-

Dubcek said his country had signed international agreements such as those related to the Helsinki accords on European security and U.N. treaties. But despite the demands of people for such agreements — guaranteeing hu-man rights and the right of association — to be honoured, there had been gaps between the laws and their being implemented or upheld in Czechoslovakia.

"I see my position as chairman of parliament to assure that these gaps are filled, that all Czechoslovak legislation is in accord with the laws of Western Democratic countries," he said. "This is the key question I and

Havel has criticised parliament for sitting for only a few days a month even though it faces leng-thy debates and a mass of legisla-

tion. This includes setting the framework for radical changes in Czechoslovakia's economy and society and the holding of free general elections in June. But Dubcek said the assembly - until recently a rubber-star-\$ body subservient to the Com-

munist party — was playing its role in Czechoslovakia's democratic revolution, now in its second phase of seeking "new solutions to the mistakes of the "The current work of parliament is anchored in the thought:

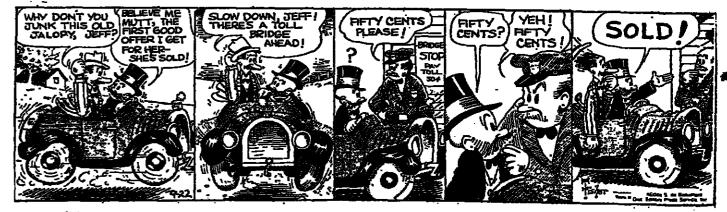
What to do next?" he said. Czechoslovakia was full of hope that its new government and reformed parliament would follow the path of pluralism and democracy and find its rightful place in Europe, Dubcek said.

"It is generally accepted that Czechoslovakia belongs among the countries of high culture and standards, regardless of the fact that our economy has become somewhat backward," he said. We have the foundations on which we can build."

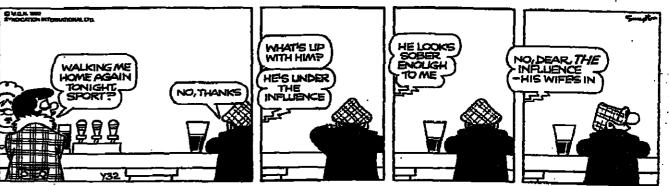
Would the heady prospect of democratic reform, which lasted just a few months in 1968 before being crushed ruthlessly, take

"I am optimistic, I was always an optimist even under heavy persecution," Dubcek said. 'Optimism can be a decisive

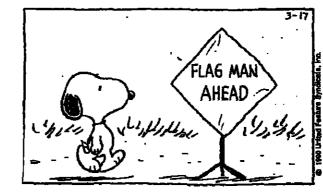
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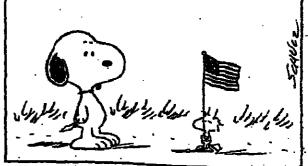


Andy Capp



Peanuts





OUT OF FOCUS

Of 'service' and service

By Adman Saed Acil

THE OTHER DAY I got onto a service taxi to Swelleh from Abdall after checking my pocket and deciding that it was wiser and more predent on "service" than on meter. I was the fourth passenger, having found a seat in the front, and the driver looked around auxiously for a fifth. Minutes ticked by, and no-one turned up; everyone in the car appeared resigned for a long wait. The driver was looking at me with an apparent message but I was at a loss. "I hope mone of you is in a hurry," was the driver's gamabit,

addressing us all. "Not at all, take your time," came a quick response from the back seat. The driver sighed, "Gone are the days when I did not have to wait for a fifth passenger," he said, lighting a rolled cigarette. "Someone was always there to offer the extra fare for one so that I could take

"I guess times have changed," he added. "Now, I have trouble getting enough passengers, he said. That was unfair, I wanted to tell him, particularly because he was getting passengers like me who used to use metred cabs. But the thought that he might ask me to pay the extra fare for the fifth seat stopped me. Not that I minded paying it, but simply that I did not have it. So I opted to make some sympathetic noise and scan around for the clusive passenger who would fill the vacant seat.

Well, another couple of minutes, and he turned up — in the form of a traditionally-garbed elder. He waved me in, ignoring my plea that I wanted to get down half-way to Swelleh. "I don't like middle seats," he explained. It suited me fine though, since I did not have to wear the seat-belt.

Soon we were on our way. The driver lit another cigarette and started his routine of collecting the fare. Everyone paid, and he began complaining about lack of change. "See, I have put a sign up here," he pointed to a small cardboard sticker saying "Please tender exact change."

I wanted to point out that he also had a "no-smoking" sign in the form of an X across a cigarette, but thought it would be wiser to endure the smoke coming from left and right (the elder, it appeared, was also a chain smoker) for another five minutes.

Having concluded the fare collection process, the driver launched a monologue of how difficult life was getting with the rising cost of spare parts and tyres. "I used to pay JD 90 for an annual overhaul of my engine," he said. "Now, I will not dream of entering the workshop without JD 200."

"That is, of course, not to mention the traffic fines I have to pay. It simply beats me how the policemen step out of the skadows to wave me down and slap a fine," he lamented. From the looks of things, particularly the reckless way be was driving, it was only natural that he attracts fines more than candy attracts flies, I

thought but kept it to myself.

Soon, it was time for me to disembark. I made a grumbling noise. and he pulled up. I got out and crossed the street. "Please mister," I heard a coil behind me. It was the driver extending his hand with a 50 fils coin — the change I forgot to collect from him.

Cases of corruption

Assessing the reaction of the

factory."

House, the deputy said: "There

seemed to be some kind of

accommodation among some de-

puties, giving the impression that

the committee's report was satis-

"Deputies who raised hell dur-

ing the election campaign, promising to put this or that official

behind bars, appeared quite

domesticated... it looked as if it

was some kind of a deal between

An Islamist deputy said the

accusations were "totally ground-less and vindictive." He refused

to elaborate or to give details

about the House's deliberations.

vided by the committee "only

served to cast doubts about cer-

tain projects and persons," the

independent deputy said. "It is

unfair to expect the committee to

do more than that. But the dis-

appointment is inevitable in light

of the high expectations that were fuelled by exaggerated pledges by deputies before and after the

"The House's authorities are

defined by the Constitution and

are limited in their nature to

legislation," he said. "It would

have been better if the House

adopted a more modest, realistic

and practical approach so as not

to cause such disappointments. It

is important for each to know

Some of the information pro-

the Islamists and the committee.'

Production Company, the King Talal Dam, barter trade deals with Iraq and Syria, purchase of boats for the Dead Sea, the King Abdullah Complex, the Ministry of Supply's accounts in Washington, the Postal Savings Fund, fertiliser and potash projects, Japanese and French loans for telecommunication projects, the Deir Alla pipeline project, expansion work at the cement factory, and "sale" of Jordanian pass-

According to a source quoted by Reuters, the House committee also wanted an inquiry into Royal Jordanian, and sought govern-ment explanations over the takeover in August of Petra Bank and the Jordan Gulf Bank and a report on what action had been

The House step to refer the cases to the attorney general was endorsed by 76 votes against four abstentions, according to a source quoted by the Associated Press.

An independent deputy said Finance Committee Chairman Abdullah Ensour presented documentation that could help indict some officials provided the information was helpful in an investigation by the judiciary."

He added that one deputy proposed the establishment of an independent investigation panel to follow up on the committee's report and remove many ambiguities clouding most of the cases.

"Overall," the deputy said, "the report was a disappoint-ment It was below people's expectations and aspirations in terms of not providing enough

He added that "the most important conclusion we reached is that the committee is very limited in its ability to deal with such an incredible task and that if the executive and judicial branches of government do not cooperate, it

0

will be only a waste of time." Another deputy said that Islamists in the House appeared, surprisingly, quite satisfied with the committee's findings." The Christian deputy explained that "considering the high expectations which were built up since the election campaign, it was quite disappointing

to hear what we heard today." "We are all aware of the limitations of the committee - both personal and technical, but the promises that were made were more than what has been achieved," he added.

The deputy argued that although the committee did not directly implicate names in the report, "it mentioned projects and cases that could easily be linked to certain officials or indi-

"Most of the information presented did not go much beyond what is known by the man in the street," one source told the Jordan Times. "Some documents were presented but they are hardly enough if not taken scriously by the judiciary," he stressed.

Israeli coalition collapse kindles Palestinian hopes

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The collarse of the multi-party coalition government in Israel has boosted the hopes of the Palestinian people living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for a solution to the Palestinian problem, according to a leadng activist from the Gaza

However, the hopes essentially centre around the possibility that the left-of-centre Labour Party, which says it favours "territorial compromise" as the key to peace, said Fayez Abu Rahme, a prominent lawyer from Gaza.

"We hope that the new Israeli government will be formed by the Labour Party because we believe and hope that it will deal more seriously with the Palestinians and the peace process," Abu Rahme told the Jordan Times

Tuesday.
Abu Rahme, who is currently on a private visit to Jordan. said that although the collapse of the Israeli government last week would delay the peace process "until the political scene in Israel is reorganised," he did not believe that it was a "show." He said that the downfall of the government appeared to be stage-managed, but that he believed that in reality it was due to serious differences between Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud Party and Shimon Peres's Labour on the peace process.

According to Abu Rahme, the Palestinians had harboured little hope for peace when the Likud-led government was in power since it had no real and serious intention to make just peace with the Palestinians. "It insisted on implementing autonomy for Palestinians rather than talking with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and accepting the principle of exchanging land for peace," he noted. "Palestinians were pleased

with the fall of Shamir's government, especially that it did not show any moderation; all its lines were of fanaticism and ibility," commented Abu Rahme, who is strongly favoured to be included in a Palestinian delegation in any peace negotiations with Israel.

Although many Palestinians find it only remotely possible that a Labour-led government would accept to negotiate with the PLO, the lawyer said, "Nothing is impossible in politics. What seems impossible today in Arb-Israeli politics may be possible tomorrow. Positions are moveable and policies may change. Whoever thought in the 1940s that Germany and-France would both become members of the same North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in the 1950s?"

Abu Rahme reiterated that Israel should open negotiations with the PLO, which, he said, the Palestinians in the occupied territories regard as their sole and legitimate representa-

The PLO has the mandate. It can make concessions without being accused of being a traitor as an ordinary person who does not have the mandate and who may make political concessions on behalf of the Palestinians. So it is beneficial for the peace process to have a party with a full mandate from the (Palestinian) population. And the only one in the Palestinian field is the PLO," he said.

Hamas role

Abu Rahme denied that the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas — an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood — was dominant in the Gaza Strip, saying it represented no more than 15 per cent of the population. He described "the rumours" in the international media that the group was more influential and strong in Gaza than the PLO as an Israeli attempt to undermine Palestiman unity.

Israel tries to split us by spreading word that extremism and fundamentalism are strong in the occupied territories. In reality, Hamas does not represent more than 15 per cent of



Fayez Abu Rahme

the Gaza population," he said. Abu Rahme, who is representing Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin who is on trial by an Israeli court, said that the underground Unified Leadership of the Uprising, which includes PLO supporters, remains the dominant factor in the occupied territories, issuing calls for strikes and demonstrations. He noted that the majority of the people complies with the calls of the unified leadership.

"For example, Hamas is not stronger than Islamic Jihad. a Palestinian military group. But I'm basing my judgement according to my observations and not on scientific merits," he said.

The lawyer added that Hamas strategy contradicts the strategy of the secular PLO.

"Hamas is a group which bases its ideology that all Palestine ought to be an Islamic republic and does not believe in political solutions, a strategy that contradicts that of the PLO," Abu Rahme said.

He described Hamas's strategy as "unrealistic" because, "unlike the PLO, which enjoys the largest popular Palestinian support, the group is dealing with the impossible.

"But in every community there are people who deal with both the possible and the impossible," he commented.

Abu Rahme warned that if Israel does not respond positively to the Palestinian overtures for peace and if the United States does not seriously intervene by pressuring Israel to respond as such, Palestinian fundamentalism and extremism will become stronger.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of American, Arab and other leaders of the world to help Palestinian moderation and let it bear fruit," Abu Rahme said.



By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - As a result of the thaw in East-West relations following the recent "opening up and liberalisation" in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Israeli popularity has grown in the East bloc and American aid to Israel and other countries in the region is likely to change in character, according to an Arab-American political analyst.

"The people in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union are rejecting everything that was associated with the 'ancient regime' at this point and one of the characteristics of that era in their history was excellent relations with the Arab World," said Adeed Issam Dawisha, an Iraqi-born professor of political science at George Mason University in Virginia in a lecture delivered Monday at the American Uni-

versity of Beirut Alumni Club. Dawish explained that Soviet and Eastern European intellectuals were rejecting in principle what their former governments had built up in the last 40 years, including support for the Arab World against Israel. Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia have already established diplomatic ties with Israel.

The initial political 'net gain' that Israel has achieved in

said. He added that much of the funds that would thus become available may not necessarily be chanelled as foreign aid since there are many internal American ills which need solutions. He said that as a result of events in Eastern Europe he expected that part of the \$11 billion annual American foreign aid would be channelled to Eastern Europe rather than the more traditional recipients of the U.S., in-

cluding Israel and Egypt. He said that while some "traditional" U.S. allies in the Middle East may be "hit" by a diversion of funds to Eastern Europe, traditional allies of ing on the peace process," he

Communism

The Warsaw Pact, the political science professor said, is on the "verge of collapsing" and warned that the future of the USSR, "as we know it, is in question." He said that although he believed that the communist ideology was disappearing as such, he doubted if the Soviet Union and Eastem Europe would replace it with "rampant capitalism."

"One should not write off socialism quickly. If the two systems (communism and capitalism) were mixed creatively

"Arab leaders should realise that U.S. military support for Israel will always be there... Arabs should not hit their heads against the wall"

the Soviet Union would also be effected by the changes in the East bloc. Syria, Libya and other Arab countries that have traditionally been close to Moscow will not find the same support in light of the "glasnost" policy in the Soviet Un-

Dawisha, who is currently on a speaking tour of Jordan, said he was surprised by the United States' active interest in

we would have the ideal system." he said.

He predicted the recent events in the East bloc would bring about a global shift from an "ideological" competition to economic competition between the United States and the Soviet Union.

He also said that a multipolar rather than a bi-polar division of power was likely as a result of the recent changes in the East bloc.

Continued military presence of the Soviet Union and the United States in Europe, he said, is not an indication of a lingering military conflict or a continuation of a political war but a "security against a united Germany". since a fear of such an entity still existed.

Jewish immigration

Dawisha said that he felt that very little could be done on a political level to halt the massive influx of Soviet Jews to Israel. He said that only thing he thought could be done was to "continue the watchdog system to ensure that Israelies do not smuggle Soviet Jews into

he said he believed that the lot. For one, you have pressured the U.S. to increase its quota of Soviet immigrants

> moves by Arab leaders, including the Palestinian leadership, had resulted in a big change in public opinion in the U.S. viaa-vis the Arabs,

Soviet Union are rejecting everything that was associated with the 'ancient regime'... (including) excellent relations with the Arab World" solving the Middle East prob-Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union can only be countered lem although it is plagued by in one way and that is catering problems in Europe, the Soviet to the economic needs of the

"The people in Eastern Europe and the

East bloc," Dawisha said. The East bloc needs a massive influx of investment right now and that's where the Arab World can make its mark (and) counter Israel's current political presence there," Dawisha

Although Israel has already and other agreements with Eastern European countries, the Arab World has greater potential as buyers as well as suppliers to the East bloc, according to Dawisha. He said that the "economic

factor" coupled with the presence of 60 million Muslims in Soviet Central Asia would balance Israel's new presence in the East bloc

Dawisha, whose lecture was entitled "Events in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe: Their Impact on the Middle East and the United States Relations," said that as a result of the thaw in East-West relations the United States government could change the form and destination of much of its \$260 billion defence expenditure. "If the East-West thaw continues the U.S. could cht that figure by 50 per cent over Union and Latin America. He said the attitude of the

U.S. government had changed considerably after "the demise of (Ronald) Reagan and the advent of (George) Bush." He said that while the U.S. government would never stop supporting Israel, the current administration was trying to Israel help itself

Arab leaders, he said, "have to accept that U.S. military support for Israel will always be there ... Arabs should not hit their head against the wall.'

He added that he believed the Bush administration to be more "flexible and pragmatic" than the Reagan administration and that it was trying to make Israel realise that peace was in its best interests.

Talking to the Jordan Times after the lecture, Dawisha insisted that continued U.S. military support for Israel, coupled with increasing political pressure on the Jewish state to take steps towards peace in the region, did not constitute a double standard in American

"The duality of giving arms and pushing politically will help Bush counter-attack

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the occupied territories through the backdoor." recent uproar in the Arab World in general and Jordan in particular had already resulted in an increase in the immigration quota in the United States. "You have done quiet a

from 50,000 to 80,000." He added that recent peace

The Arab Americans have also done their best to improve the image of Arabs and the Arab causes in the U.S. All these have helped but, of course, the single most important event that has changed both the U.S. and world opinion has undoubtedly been the intifada," Dawisha concluded.



The tallest office building in Europe, the Trade Fair Tower in Frankfurt am Main, has just been topped out. On completion in August it will be 256

firm has already moved in, taking up residence down on the 19th floor (Photo: DaD/AP)

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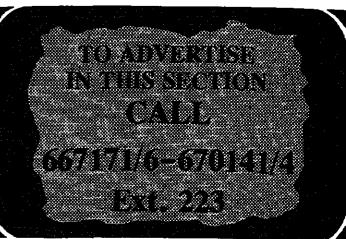
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Higher interest rate | China stresses state control fails to prop up yen

TOKYO (AP) — The Tokyo Stock Exchange's key index dived sharply again Tuesday as neither currency market intervention nor a long-awaited interest rate boost by the central bank stopped the weakening of the Japanse ven.

The 225-issue Nikkei stock average, which plunged 1,353.20 points, or 4.15 per cent, on Monday in its third-largest single-day fall, tumbled another 456.05 s, or 1.48 per cent, on

Its closing of 30,807.19 was the lowest since 30,678.39 on Jan. 9, 1989. So far this year, the index has dived more than 8,100 points, or almost 21 per cent. Meanwhile, the dollar closed at 153.65 yen, up 0.10 yen from Monday's close of 153.55 yen. It opened at 152.70 ven and ranged between 152.45 yen and 153.75 yen. Its closing was the highest since 153.69 yen on March

Stock market investors were discouraged by the yen's failure. to recover after the Bank of Japan announced a one percentage point increase in its discount rate, its charge for loans to commercial banks, said Yoshiro Inoue, an analyst with Nomura

Generally, higher interest rates make a country's currency more attractive to investors.

The stock index fell in the morning, regained some ground on word of the impending rate increase, and then fell again in the afternoon, after the increase to 5.25 per cent was announced.

"The index fell back again as

the discount rate hike failed to boost yen buying," Inoue said. Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Tuesday that the central bank's "pre-emptive" discount rate increase would control latent inflationary pressures without appreciably slowing Japan's economic expansion.

He added, however, that the raise would not provide a quick fix for recent instability in the foreign exchange and stock markets, although he indicated that the rate hike would help both in the long run.

Inoue said the size of the raise was appropriate, and the end of the long wait for the action meant elimination of one factor for in-

"But the stock market's stability is totally subject to currency movements from now on," Inoue

The rate increase had been expected since after national elections on Feb. 18.

The discount rate, which has a strong impact on other interest rates, had been at a historic low of 2.5 per cent for nearly nine years, until May 1989, when the central bank made the first of three increases that brought it to

Traders said that surprisingly, market players bought the dollar even after the discount rate in-

"The market reaction to the discount rate hike was minimal because the rate increase already had been factored into the market for such a long time," said Mitsui Bank trader Shinichi

He said many market players who anticipated the raise by keeping short, or oversold, dollar positions bought back dollars as soon as the rate actually was

Traders estimated that the Bank of Japan sold some \$200 million Tuesday in efforts to prop up the yen. The bank does not comment on its exchange marvet activity.

"Since many market players saw Japan's interest rate as having climbed as high as it could, it (discount rate increase) will help the yen and the stock market recover in the long run," Kato said. "But there is nothing in the current economy to reverse the dollar-buying trend and prompt yen-buying.

The price of the benchmark No. 119 Japanese government bond ended trading at 86.27 points, down from Monday's close of 86.50. Its yield was 7.29 per cent, up from 7.24 per cent.

BELIING (AP) - More state ceive fewer subsidies. Li said there should be a bamore spending money are ahead lance between mandatory planning, planning through state guifor China's struggling economy, Premier Li Peng said Tuesday in dance and market regulation. But a state of the nation speech. the balance is tipped toward re-

Li's address to the opening session of the National People's Congress officially confirmed that the government is worried about the economy's poor performance, and sees the remedy in greater plans," he said. state control.

During the two-hour speech, Li said repeatedly that reforms that have introduced market principles in China over the past decade will continue.

But he spoke mainly of reforms aimed at making inefficient fac-tories more efficient, more disciplined and more responsive to

Broader reforms advocated by Western economists — more market-determined prices, decentralisation of authority, fewer government subsidies and a more independent banking system were largely rejected.

Li, regarded as more comfortable with Soviet-style central planning, stressed that reforms are "designed to demonstrate the superiority of the socialist

He called for recentralisation of authority over construction projects, expanded state control over the distribution of important materials, and tighter controls over prices and money markets.

Local departments will be asked to turn over more of their profits to the state and will re-

ceiving directions from the top. "We should, from now on, place production and circulation of major products essential to the capacity or brought to a standnational economy and people's well-being under mandatory

Private enterprise should be encouraged in its supplementary role, he said, but "the crux of the matter is giving full play to the backbone role of state-owned large and medium-sized enteryuan (\$23.4 billion). prises," said Li.

Management reform, which in the past stressed giving more power to the factory director, is to concentrate on the "three-inone system," bringing together "collective wisdom and strength" of Communist Party officials, technicians and

Li effectively suspended mar-ket-oriented reforms in late 1988 when he seized authority over economic matters from former party chief Zhao Ziyang and imposed tough austerity measures to combat excessive growth and high inflation.

The prentier said China had "won great history victories" in bringing inflation down to seven per cent, from about 30 per cent in early 1989, and slicing industrial output growth from 21 per cent in 1988 to 8.3 per cent last

industries by selling them petro-dollars at the official rate for their

The more we produce at the

imports of raw materials.

But he acknowledged that the sharp cutback in credit and suspension of government projects had resulted in "excessive stockpiles of products and manufactured goods, shortage of funds in enterprises, slow production growth and an increased number of enterprises running at half

Industrial growth rate was down 0.9 per cent over the first two months of 1990, stockpiles of finished goods in state enterprises had jumped 81 per cent at the end of 1989 and total debts owed by enterprises has hit 110 billion

About one-quarter of factories are said to be closed or running at half-speed, causing a worrisome increase in unemployment.

Li said the government would relax curbs on the money supply, increase credit to enterprises, adjust interest rates for loans and savings deposits to stimulate consumer spending, increase investment in key projects and housing and set up special groups to break "debt chains" among industries. Investment in agriculture is to go up 30 per cent this year.

Li said the measures would "not prejudice efforts to retrench expenditures," but they appeared to mark a major shift in an austerity programme supposed to run three years.

Li warned that there are no easy solutions to China's prob-

"We must not look for quick success in either economic development or reform," he said.

Azzam sees slow Arab

'competitive' and 'export' rates of foreign currency, the more we are able to save our industries," he establishing new ones or benefitt-The competitive rate, introing from the surge in the region's duced last October for selected stock and real estate markets,' imports, has been set at 800 rivals monthly bulletin of Gulf Interna-The export rate, about 500 rivals tional Bank, the largest of some 60 offshore units in Bahrain. "(If) the government wishes to pay subsidies, it should avoid

.... The improved geo-economic conditions in the region will encourage the gradual repatriation of at least a portion of the sizeable funds invested abroad," he said, estimating that the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have some

The amount, accumulated from the oil boom days, was roughly \$200 billion public sector

tics were based on the Bank of England quarterly bulletins which put all OPEC foreign assets at around \$466 billion by mid-1989. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain, the group includes leading members of the 13-nation oil

The breakdown showed that the investors had moved away from the United States toward the EC since 1983 when the percentages respectively were 28.1, 21.1 and 16.9.

The money flew out of the region, which had yet to develop its infrastructure after the oil boom years of the 1970s. The flow was accepted in the 1980s

But since the ceasefire in August 1988, coupled with an up-ward trend in oil prices, the GCC economies have started witnessing a revival. With a completed infrastructure, the governments have been seeking the means of encouraging private sector domestic investments, developing the necessary financial tools such as domestic stock markets to help

sector play a large part in an industrialisation drive.

iected downtrend in the outflow of capital from the Gulf countries investors continue to recycle their wealth abroad.

domestic markets have improved recently, the outlets remain lipensity to save in the region, there will always be ample sur-plus funds seeking investments abroad," he added.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you have a restless and inquiring attitude toward conditions and persons about you. Be sure to show the logical rea powers that you have in dealing with others.

Concentrate now on pleasing the close companions you do not know well of your good friends. Take a trip to a distance to see an interesting person with your mate. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

with present good friends today instead of reaching out for new ones. Be more direct in stating your true view to members of your household. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Get at and finish those home duties

requiring your personal attention.
You can find out by questioning what has been troubling your MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Be in group activities to have a really good time today. Invite persons into your home whom you would like to know

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Join family and friends at the recreation you want to enjoy now. Be ready at a moments notice to go on a jaunt with attachment to a place you both enjoy.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Now you can put new zest and

enthusiasm into your activities, and friends will greatly appreciate favours done for them by you in

their behalf. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Take as many journs to as many places with interesting friends as possible. Don't hesitate to ask for aid from prominent persons to attain your ambitions.

ber 21) You can now find the right means by which to make your home more comfortable. A wonderful accord should now exist between you and your attachment. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

December 21) Try to get off alone with friends so that you can really know them better. Anything per-taining to home and family should go along smoothly. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) Make sure you pull your full weight in all activities with friends. Your attachment will enjoy being with you and friends

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Invite into your home the most influential persons available, and attachment will enjoy meeting worldly personalities.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Try to get a family member to go on an interesting trip with you. Show now that you are deeply interested in attachment's current

Economist warns of low Iraqi dinar

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A leading economist on Tuesday slammed the low rate of exchange for the traci dinar against the U.S. dollar as a key problem facing the Iraqi economy.

Professor Humam Al Shama'a of Baghdad University wrote in the army daily Al Qaddissiya that the unrealistic exchange rate is hampering economic growth in

Al Shama'a, former economic advisor to the ruling Revolutionary Command Council, said the low exchange rate is draining the oil revenues because of the government is paying higher and higher amounts to subsidise basic

"When the exchange rate is high or unrealistic productivity is effected and waste is a common phenomenon," the economist

The official rate of exchange is about \$3 per dinar, while in the black market it is \$1 dollar for three dinars. The government is under pressure to adopt a new exchange rate for trade transac-

The high rate makes it more and more expensive for importers to buy dollars, when available, to bring goods into the country, and it makes Iraqi good more expensive abroad.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, March 20, 1990 Central Bank official rates

Japanese yen (for 100)
Dutch guilder
Swedish crown
Italian lira (for 100) 670.0 674.0 399.1

One Sterling

1.6215/25 1.1795/1805 1.6850/57 1.8965/75 1.5067/74 35.01/06 5.6930/80 1245/1246 153.10/20

117.3 118.0 436.8 439.4 352.1 354.2

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One U.S. dollar

6.1220/70

U.S. dollars Canadian dollar Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

6.5505/55 6.4560/4610

Deutschemarks **Dutch** guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs

One ounce of gold

400.90/401.40 U.S. dollars

SYDNEY — Australia's share market finished marginally weaker after drifting back up from its morning lows, but volume remained

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

thin. The All Ordinaries ended 2.9 down at 1596.0. TOKYO - Tokyo share prices closed sharply lower after a day of volatile trading during which the Bank of Japan raised the official discount rate a full percentage point to 5.25 per cent. The Nikkei sagged 456.05 to close at 30,807.19.

HONG KONG - Share prices closed firmer but brokers forecast narrow movement as traders see limited potential for upward movement in the short-term The Hang Seng gained 8.64 to

SINGAPORE - Share prices closed slightly firmer in thin and cantious trade on short-covering and selective bargain-hunting. The Straits Times Index was 1.19 points up at 1,564.05. BOMBAY -- Share prices ended up but off highs in heavy trade boosted by tax breaks for industry in the 1990/91 fiscal budget.

The Bombay Stock Exchange Index rose 15.27 to 726.31. FRANKFURT - Shares ended mixed as a second day of heavy losses in Tokyo and slightly lower bond prices further unsettled a cautious market. The Dax Index was 2.06 points up at 1908.83. ZURICH — Shares were lower in quiet moderate volume as

investors remained cautious about world market developments. The SPI Index was down 3.5 points at 1,093.1 PARIS - Investors hesitated before a welter of conflicting signals and shares ended easier after a very slow session. The CAC-40

Index ended 11.57 points down at 1,925.39. LONDON - After dull trade, shares ended higher in moderately active business after the British budget speech. The FTSE Index rose 21.7 to 2,259.7.

NEW YORK - Wall Street stocks advanced after a hond market recovery spurred buying. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 8 points to 2,764.

USSR says division of Europe must end

BONN (R) - The Soviet Union offered a vision Tuesday of an integrated European economy from the Atlantic to the Urals and said Moscow was committed to breaking down the bloc men-

tality of Fast and West Ernest Obminsky, head of the Soviet delegation to a 35-nation East-West economic conference, brushed aside Western fears that Moscow's economic reforms were half-hearted and said President Mikhail Gorbachev was committed to radical change.

"We must work further to free ourselves from the inertia of bloc mentality, of closed door attitudes and exclusive group day of the meeting, an offshoot of the Conference on Security and

Cooperation (CSCE) in Europe. Obminsky, backing West Ger-man Chancellor Helmut Kohl's concept of an integrated European economic zone outlined to Monday's opening session, cautioned however that there could be "no instant solutions when it comes to creating a common economic space from the

Atlantic to the Urals." He said this could only be brought about step-by-step, backed by progress on disarmament

The three-week conference, which brings together all European nations except Albania plus the United States and Canada, is aimed at overcoming the economic divisions of the past dictated by the East Bloc's adherence to Stalinist central planning and the West's commitment to

free enterprise. On Monday, Kohl and U.S. delegation chief, Alan Holmer, urged Eastern Europe to carry out full-blooded economic reform and open markets in what delegates said was an expression of disappointment with the pace of

reform, particularly in Moscow. Obminsky, deputy minister of foreign affairs, acknowledged there had been "certain difficulties in carrying out the economic programme of perestroika" but said Gorbachev would push for more radical action and carry through reform laws on own-

ership, land use and leasing.
"Our president sees his main task in getting this legislation implemented in practice," Obminsky said. Economists in Moscow said Monday that Gorbachev was now determined to use his new powers

as executive president to push

through a far-reaching economic

nackage. A sweeping package drawn up by Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin at the end of 1989 was watered down by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, creating concern in the West that Moscow would not make a full transition

from the command economy.

The head of the Dutch delegation to the Bonn conference, Charles Rutten, said there seemed to be a widening gap between the theory of economic reform in Eastern Europe and the "intractable reality of everyday life" in which Western businessmen were often disappointed by practical problems.

Strong riyal hits **Iranian industry**

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's minister of heavy industry issued a warning that Iranian industry, operating at only 25 per cent of capacity, would not recover as long as the rival was kept artificially

Hadi Nejad-Hosseinian blamed the wide gap between the official and open market rate of the rival -71 and 1.300 to the dollar respectively - for many problems facing the economy. "As long as we maintain this

counter-productive task," he told a gathering of the Islamic Society of Engineers in Tehran. Nejad-Hosseinian said foreign exchange earnings, mostly from crude oil, fell short of needs and

ratio, we are engaged in a

industrial production and ex-But the official exchange rate made Iranian products too costly, encouraging imports instead of

Iran had no choice but to boost

fostering domestic production, he

plan adopted in January envisages industrial exports worth \$9 billion over the next five years.

expected to earn another \$1 bilshort of calling for devaluation of

that the government would con-

Iran used only 25 per cent of its industrial capacity last year, he An economic development

compared with \$70 million in the current year ending Wednesday. Tran estimates its oil revenue in the year to March 21 at about \$12.5 billion. Non-oil exports are

Nejad-Hosseinian stopped the riyal, a politically risk option rejected by the government as the currency slipped during the 1980-88 war with Iraq and after the 1986 oil price crash.

paying them for this sort of production and instead pay them in the form of cash aid to the public," Nejad-Hosseinian said. President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said two weeks ago

to the dollar since December.

to the dollar, applies to imports

paid for by non-oil exports.

time to use the official rate for strategic imports. Industries of medium importance could use the competitive rate, he said, and those producing non-essential goods had to buy

their dollars on the open market. Nejad-Hosseinian said the multi-tier exchange rate system distorted pricing mechanisms and spawned corruption. For example, he said, the official price of 710,000 riyals for a

Renault car covered only half its cost for the government-owned Saipa Company. Once delivered, each car could be resold for seven million riyals, a price reflecting open market rates. The minister said Iranian industry also suffered from poor

management and backward tech-

nology. On a scale of zero to 100,

he rated Iran's technology at 36

and research and management at

required to check the identity of

those depositing funds with them.

in recent years by foreign police

departments and governments

which say it has failed to stop

drug cartels and other criminals

hiding behind its banking secrecy

Until now, money laundering

has only been an offence if it

could be proved that profits were

ploughed back into drug traffick-

ing and Swiss banks operated a

voluntary agreement to ascertain

the identity of customers deposit-

ing or withdrawing more than 100,000 francs (\$67,000).

ise negligence in accepting cri-

minal funds. The banks strongly

objected to such a proposal,

saying it was impracticable and

would impose police-type duties

The new law would not penal-

Switzerland has been criticised

But he spoke against govern-Switzerland outlaws money laundering

BERNE (R) - Anxious to dispel any thoughts that it might be a vault for dirty money, Switzerland has passed a bill which outlaws laundering of criminal proceeds and makes financial institutions check the identity of their

customers. The justice ministry said Tuesday that the upper house had passed the bill unanimously during a late sitting Monday. It should now become law within

Under the law, anyone con-

victed of knowingly concealing

the origins of illegal profits would face a fine or imprisonment. In serious cases, when the guilty party is found to be working for a crime ring or has obtained a very large profit, the fine could be as much as one million Swiss francs (\$670,000) and might be

on them coupled with a jail term of up to

Some critics say this makes the Financial institutions would be legislation inadequate. Chinese peasants leave city jobs

returned to their farms, the official New China News Agency has said. It did not say when its tally began or explain why so many farmers had returned but a tough austerity plan begun 17 months ago has sent industry into a tailspin.

BELIING (R) - More than 10 million Chinese farmers who left

the land for jobs in the cities during an economic boom have

capital flight

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) - A prominent Gulf economist predicted Tuesday that the current upturn in Gulf economic activities will slow capital outflow toward internatinal markets.

"Increasingly more funds will be invested in the region, either expanding existing businesses and wrote Henry Azzam in the

\$350 billion abroad. and \$150 billion private, he said. The economist said his statis-

group, the Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries. One third of the aggregate amount or 35 per cent was invested in the European Community states, according to statistics for the first half of 1989. The United States had 14.5 per cent of the total, and other industriaised nations which included Japan, Canada and the Far East had 15.9

per cent.

with the Iraq-Iran war raging for eight years.

it along. The aim is to have the private

Azzam foresaw that the prowould still see the established

"Furthermore, even though investment opportunities in the mited, and given the high pro -

THE Daily Crossword by Evelyn Benshoot

ACROSS
1 Brusque reply
5 Armor
9 Blue-pencil
13 Better
15 Br. composer 16 Easily maneuvered 17 Philanthropist 18 Suite money 19 Jacket 20 Trial membe undecided 23 Sense 24 Coast or tower 26 Crystalline Bard's river 32 Labyrinth 35 Exactly 39 Katmandu's

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved: 7 Lodges ... 8 Admits 9 Astonishing 14 Tenor

26 Judge's seat 27 Affirm 28 Lasso 29 No way! 30 Vehicle 33 Irish Islands 34 Attack kdi "Then There 70 Large grouper 1 Directed 2 Chin. Island

48 Exotic flower 50 Vast chasm

43 — suzette 44 Samoan port

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DOWN

53 Tortoise shell

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58 Kind of sch. 59 Keep Intact

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THE BETTER HALF By Harris HARRIS

We were out of meat tenderizer for the steak, so I used fabric softener."



علدًا صد الأحل

MILAN (AP) — Italian manager Azeglio Vicini has picked Argentina, Brazil and the Netherlands. as the favourite teams in the world cup which kicks off in June.

"It's up to other managers to name Italy in the bunch of potential title winners, which could also include West Germany, England and Spain," he said.

Vicini, who has been heading the Italian squad since 1986, said he expects that few goals in the World Cup, with defenses prevailing over offenses, and added that some underdog teams such as Costa Rica, Colombia and the United States could do unexpectedly well if they take risks.

The Italian manager made his remarks during a news conference organised by Milan's World Cup organising committee Mon-

About the U.S. team, which is in the World Cup group A with Italy, Vicini said "it's a good team, which relies on European-

MILAN (R) — Since AC Milan's

first European Cup quarter-final leg against Mechelen of Belgium,

the Italian holders have fallen

Two weeks ago, they boasted

Now, after a 0-0 draw in the

an unbeaten 16-match league run

and were well ahead in the Italian

first leg and two consecutive de-

feats in the domestic league,

Milan desperately need to regain

their winning ways if they are to

wrong," said captain Franco

Baresi after the world club cham-

Juventus by losing 3/1 to Interna-

zionale in the Milan Derby

"The offside trap isn't working

"Maybe Wednesday's match will give us the impetus we need

to regain the edge in the league as

"Only a great Milan will get through — but I don't think

pions followed a 3-0 defeat at.

"Certainly something's

dramatically apart.

Championship race.

reach the semifinals.

as well as it should."

said Baresi.

style tactics, including a sweeper Juventus of Turin who is doing behind defenders."

"There are good reasons for not underestimating the U.S. team. The Americans are very strong athletically and have been concentrating on the World Cup for a year.

"The U.S. team, along with Colombia and Costa Rica, could achieve sensational, unexpected results in the World Cup because they play with enthusiasm and

have nothing to lose."

The World Cup clash between the Italian and U.S. teams is scheduled at Rome's Olympic stadium June 14.

Vicini explained that the Latin. American teams — namely Argentina and Brazil — are among the favourites because most of their players perform in Europe "and will have no problems in getting used to the Italian weather and turf."

Schillaci, the young striker of

we've turned into a bad side

Not surprisingly, Mechelen

scout Julien Aerts, who watched

happy with what he saw.
"Milan had to swallow three

goals for the second time in a

row... but I don't believe stories

saying they are exhausted. They remain a world-class side," Aerts

Alessandro Costacurta, who

scored Milan's only goal against

Inter, is disqualified after being booked in Belgium March 7 and

injury-prone stopper Filippo Gal-

will take his place.
All of Milan's international

class players, including Baresi,

arguably Europe's finest Libero.

and Dutch Internationals Marco

Van Basten and Frank Riikaard.

the Derby defeat, said he was

overnight."

extremely well in his first season in the major league, may be called for the March 31 exhibition game against Switzerland in

Schillaci would substitute for Gianluca Vialli, who is nursing a foot injury. .

The manager also disclosed that Italy will play a warmup match against Greece May 30, 10 days before its World Cup debut against Austria.

About soccer-related violence, Vicini said players and referees must cooperate "to give a non-violent image of the Wrold Cup." "Police must be on the alert on the islands, but I hope that the

natural beauties of those places

will help in calming fans down." The most troublesome European supporters from England and the Netherlands will be concentrated during the initial round He disclosed that Salvatore. of games on the islands of Sicily

Mechelen prepared for Milan

Saturday with an easy 4-0 work-

out in their own Debry against

neighbours racing Mechelen to go third in the Belgian First Divi-

sion, three points behind joint leaders Anderlecht and Club

postponed by rain

Tennis tournament

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (AP) — No. 3 seed Stefan Edberg had an easy 6-2, 6-1 win over Amos Mansdorf Monday in the third round of the international players championships, which was later postponed because of rain.

Rising star Jennifer Capriati, meanwhile, experienced her first upset as a professional, losing to qualifier Nathalie Herreman of France 6-2, 6-4 in the fourth round of women's action. Herreman, ranked no. 113, advanced into the quarterfinals of a

tournament for the first time since 1987. Only three other singles matches were completed before rain forced the postponement of play.

In suspended matches, top-seeded Ivan Lendl led Marcelo Filippini 6-0, 4-2, and no. 2 Boris Becker led Jean Fleurian 3/1. Capriati's recovery fell to 8-2 since she started her pro career this month. The 13-year-old played well in her only other loss, to third-ranked Gabriela Sabatini in the finals of the Virginia Slims

While unheralded. Herreman had been pilaying well, losing just nine games in her previous next matches. "I didn't feel the pressure at all" the 23-year left left-hander said," I was pretty cool.

"I think there was more presure on her than on me. Everybody wants her to win. It's difficult. You can't win every game.". Herreman, combining topspin and slice groundstrokes, rarely gambled for winners and was content to keep the ball in play until Capriati made a mistake. The strategy worked, as the teen committed 53 unforced errors to 33 for Herreman.

Herreman broke Capriati three times for a 5-0 lead in the first set, which took just 30 minutes. Capriati held serve at love for a reached dence

Women hockey championship held

OTTAWA (AP) — Women's hockey came of age Monday — complete with TV coverage, international recognition and goals galore - as the first world championship got under way.

the tournament's official opening at the Civic Centre Arena, a few miles from the residence of the governor general, where the first women's hockey game is reputed to have been played in 1891.

About 2,000 people were at the Canada-Sweden game and crowds were sparse-to-nonexistent at other games in arenas scattered around the city. But the players made up for the lack of fan frenzy with their own enthu-

"It's great to play against different cultures out here," said United States team captain Tina-Cardinale, who led her club to a 16-3 drubbing of Switzerland. In other games, Finland beat Norway 10-1 and West Germany handled Japan 4-1.

Canada and the United States are favoured to meet for the championship Sunday. They won't play during the tournament because Canada is in pool A with Sweden, West Germany and Japan while the United States is in pool B with Finland, Norway and Switzerland.

and had five assists while Cammi Granato had three goals and an assist. The Americans put the game away with nine goals in the third period.

The world championship —

Hockey Federation.

Marseille, Papin look ahead

and top striker Jean-Pierre Papin confidently expect to move nearer their goal of becoming the first French side to win the European Cup when they meet Cfka Sofia Wednesday.

The attractive side assembled at de luxe prices by millionaire President Bernard Tapie already have their sights on a place in the last four after beating the Bulgarians 1-0 in Sofia in the first leg of the quarter-finals two weeks ago.

Though only three French clubs - Reims, St Etienne and Bordeaux — have ever gone as far as the semifinals and none was able to claim the trophy, Marseille have no complexes.

Tapie set the European Cup as the season's priority and put the diamond he has in Papin into its proper setting by signing up a true collection of soccer jewels in Brazilian sweeper Carlos Mozer, English winger Chris Waddle and striker Enzo Francescoli of Uru-

Danish club Brondby and Aek Athens were swept aside in ear-

Rome soccer team.

convicted of violence at a soccer

hold little hope of stopping Marseille's progress.

"Marseille are the Milan of tomorrow,' Bulgarian trainer Dimiter Penev said at the weekend, paying the French the ultimate compliment. "They are already a great side and they are still improving. If they beat us, ! can see them in the final."

If they go as far much of the credit must be handed to the priceless Papin - captain, star and executioner-in-chief for the Marseille millionaires. He has already grabbed 33 goals in all competitions this season. Papin scored in each match

during the first two rounds of the European Cup and set up the goal for Philippe Thys in Sofia. With five goals in two league matches last week, including a hat-trick against Toulon Saturday, he is almost impossible to

stop at present without resorting

to sophisticated military hard-

The visitors pin their slender hopes on their own Papin. Khris-

to Stoichkov, who will play for Barcelona next season after a \$6-million transfer, disappointed in the first leg when he was completely blotted out of the match by defender Eric Mura, playing his first game of the sea-

But Penev said his star player was not fully fit then and would show his true worth in Marseille. Stoichkov scored the first goal in Saturday's 5-2 win over Etar Tirnovo to carry their unbeten run for the season to 19 league

Marseille are likely to be at full strength with the exception of suspended midfielder Philippe Vercruysse. Mozer is expected to be back in action for the first time since twisting his knee in Sofia though there is a slight doubt about Francescoli who has a calf iniury.

Mura and Thys, the two heroes of the first leg, may have to pay the price of playing among a galaxy of stars by stepping back to the substitutes' bench

First woman convicted in **AC Milan seeks confidence** 4-3 lead in the second set, but Herreman broke serve two games later when Capriati made two unforced errors after the score had Italy for soccer violence boost in European showdown

"The Derby was excellent preparation for the Milan match," said Belgian international midfieldere Bruno Versavel. "Milan have a 6-1 negative

aggregate score from their last two matches combined, we have a 4-0 positive score... it shows their defence is shaky," Van Hoof said on arrival in Milan. Van Hoof said it was unlikely he would bring any changes to the line-up for the second leg: "I

don't see why I should change my

team. Everything went all right in the first leg." lacked their customary edge An unchanged team would in-clude five Belgian internationals against Inter. Italy midfielder Roberto Donaincluding keeper Michel doni, who recently returned to the side after injury, was clearly Preud'homme, and Dutch internationals Graeme Rutjes and and it could be his night again Johnny Bosman.

Canada beat Sweden 15-1 at

Cardinale scored three goals

"I think that gave us a lot of confidence," Granato said. "We didn't know what to expect."

being played at four arenas in the Ottawa area — is the first sanctioned by the International Ice ROME (AP) — It will be three before the judge," said Rome's II boots in the stands behind the

years before the "Joan of Arc" of Lazio's superfans will attend another game of her beloved Isabella Di Giovanni, 21, has become the first woman in Italy

The quick trial of Di Giovanni She was one of six people and the others and sentences arrested at the Flaminio stadium Sunday after police waded into the stands to halt pitched battles between supporters of Lazio and its arch-rival, Roma, and to keep the fans from invading the field.

Di Giovanni spent a night in jail, received a 100-day suspended sentence and was barred from attending games for three years. She was accused of assaulting police officers.

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Tempo newspaper.
"It's true," she confessed to

the judge in court Monday. "I also threw something at the police but I lost my head. Only a few seconds before I saw the police beat up a dear friend."

aimed at keeping troublemakers out of the stadiums for up to five yeas are part of a crackdown on soccer violence as Italy's prepares to take centre stage as bost of soccer's World Cup, a monthlong event tht will be followed by hundreds of millions on television

Di Giovanni is described as a regular at Lazio games both home and away, a fixture in bluejeans and black paratroop goals, the cheap seats taken over by the "irriducible," or unshake-



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♦ K 8 5 # AJ7 North East 2 d Pass Pass Pass 1 : Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of \heartsuit Be wary of telling anyone how to play a suit combination. What is the percentage play in one suit alone could be completely wrong when taken in the context of the hand as a

As an example, consider the trump suit on this hand in isolation. The best chance to avoid a spade loser, by a small margin, is to cash the high trumps ("Eight ever, nine never"). Now let's look at the com-bined North-South assets. North-South have arrived at four

RAIDERS OF

THE LOST ARK

North-South vulnerable. South spades after a normal auction and West has led the queen of hearts. Declarer has six sure tricks in the side suits, so he needs only four trump tricks to make his game. Is

Wednesday.

there any threat to the contract? Yes. If East gains the lead to push a diamond through the king, declar-er is in danger of losing three tricks

Forewarned that the normal anproach could lead to defeat should steer you to the right line of play. The only suit where East can gain the lead is trumps, so declarer must plan the campaign to keep East off lead. There is a simple way to ac-

Win the king of hearts, cross to the king of spades and lead another spade. When East produces a low trump, finesse the jack! That's an anti-percentage play, but it guarantees the contract. If West produces the lady, you have lost a trick unnecessarily, but you are in complete control. You win any return and

take your 10 tricks. Should the cards lie as in the diagram, the safety play in trumps is necessary to deliver the contract. Had you cashed the king-ace of trumps. East would be able to ruff the third club and shoot the jack of ds through, resulting in a

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Cinema

PHILADELPHIA

Noor Al Sharit/

Intruder penetrates

PITTSBURGH (R) - An in-

truder has managed to electroni-

cally penetrate an international

computer network and enter the

computer systems of several of

the network's members in the

United States, government offi-cials have said. The network,

Internet, is a worldwide collec-

tion of systems linking more than

150,000 computers used by scien-

tists and the military around the world. In the United States, its

members include major universi-

ties, government centres and

large corporations. In recent

weeks, someone has made sever-

al attempts to get into Internet.

and has managed to penetrate

members' computers several

times, said Terry McGillen. a

spokesman for the Computer

Emergency Response Team

(CERT), a government egency

that tracks computer crime. Its

activities are coordinated at Car-

negie-Mellon University here.

"As of this morning, we know of

several systems that have been

broken into within the last week,

and several dozen more attempts

that were made on March 15 and

16," he said Monday. However,

McGillen emphasised that the

most recent efforts do not involve

a computer virus, which actively

U.S. computer

network

Gorbachev warns Estonia amid signs of deadlock with Lithuania

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev has warned Estonia against trying to declare independence from the Soviet Union amid signs of increasing desclock between the Kremlin and breaksway Lithuania.

A report in Tuesday's edition of the official Estonian daily Pacvaicht said Gorbachev told members of the republic's Communist Party leadership at a fournour meeting Monday that the "roac chosen by Lithnania 'leads to a dead end.

"Gorbachev pointed out that in the event of a divorce it is not important whether the marriage was contracted legally or not," the newspaper added. "The properry must be divided none the

Gorbachev has ordered Soviet government action to reverse Lithuania's week-old independence declaration in line with his three-day ultimatum which expired Monday requiring the Baltic republic to return to the Soviet

Tanks and troops were reported deploying in large num-

PEKING (R) — Chinese Premier

Li Peng called Tuesday for an

unrelenting crackdown on politic-

al dissent in a hardline speech

demonstrating the Communist

Party's resolve not to follow East-

Addressing the opening session

of the National People's Con-.

gress, China's rubber-stamp par-

liament which meets yearly, Li

launched into an attack on last

year's pre-democracy protests.

Li, wearing a smart Western-

style business suit, said China had

won "great, historic victories" in

crushing the nationwide move-

ment aimed at toppling the party.

drew muted applause from the

2,700 assembled delegates in the

Great Hall of the People when he

praised the army and police for

their role in the Peking crack-down which cost the lives of

hundreds, possibly thousands, of

said Tuesday the struggle against

apartheid in South Africa had

reached a decisive stage and

pledged continued support for

the African National Congress

Shevardnadze said after one

and a half hours of talks with

ANC leaders at the Soviet embas-

sy in Zambia he also backed the

rebel group's scheduled talks with

and real friends, a meeting of

people who have always fought

together in the struggle against

apartheid," Shevardnadze told

the struggle is entering a decisive

stage... this phase is very cru-

The ANC, banned in South

Africa until February, has made

it clear it retains the option of

armed struggle against the white

minority government. Over the

vears it has received massive

unititary support from the Soviet

Asked if the meeting had dis-

"We are of the view that now

"This has been a meeting of old

Pretoria next month.

(ANC).

reporters.

cial," he said.

Shevardnadze: S. African

struggle at decisive stage

His voice rising to a pitch, Li

ern Europe and yield power.

bers in southern Eithuania over the weekend.

But Lithuanian leader Vytautas Landsbergis rejected a hardline statement by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhoky Monday night asserting Soviet control over key industries in the rebel

republic. Lithuanian ownership of industry on its territory was "unquestionable according to international law, and cannot be changed by unilateral decisions of the Soviet Union," the statement said.

Landsbergis added: "But to resolve the question of the ownership of these industries it is necessary to have two sides which are willing to sit down at the

egotiating table." Gorbachev's announcement said the government was empowered to "implement a series of priority measures" to enforce a Soviet parliamentary decision declaring the Lithuanian move in-

It was unclear what action would be taken, but a separate government statement signed by

Chinese premier gives tough

civilians last June.

warning to opponents of party

"We salute them highly," he

The bulk of Li's two hour and

20 minute speech was devoted to

the need for political stability and

unity which he said the party had

achieved through its correct poli-

He also indicated the govern-

ment would relax its economic

austerity policy which has driven

bankrupt state enterprises to the

wall and made millions unem-

Li, a 61-year-old technocrat,

signalled that the party would

persist with its crackdown on

dissent while reasserting its au-

thority over almost all walks of

life, from the arts to education

Western diplomats said the

hard line taken by the govern-

ment showed that Li still enjoyed

the support of powerful veteran

military support for the ANC,

national executive committee

member Stanely Mabezela said:

"The armed struggle was not

discussed at this meeting at all-

and there are no changes in

ANC Secretary-General

We were assured of support

Alfred Nzo described the meeting

by the Soviet Union, longstand-

ing allies of our people in the

struggle against apartheid, parti-cularly at this new decisive stage," Nzo said.

In Cape Town, British Foreign

Secretary Douglas Hurd called for European Community (EC)

concessions to encourage change

in South Africa after meeting

President F.W. de Klerk for talks

about apartheid reform.

led government.

world news in Brief

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (Agencies) - French actress Capu-

cine committed suicide last Saturday in Lausanne, jumping from the window of her apartment, local police said Tuesday. The

former model started in such films as Waht's New, Pussycat and

Blake Edwards' Pink Panther. Born Germaine Lefebvre in the

southern French city of Toulon, Capucine went into retirement

two decades ago and settled in Lausanne. She was 67. There was

no immediate explanation for her suicide. The Lausanne news-

paper Le Matin quoted an unidentified friend as saying that the

actress had been suffering from depression. She died in a fall from

her eight-floor Attic apartment Saturday. Police inspector Claude

Hunt on for stolen Boston masterpieces

BOSTON (R) — A world-wide hunt has begun for a pair of art thieves who posed as policemen to pull off the biggest art theft in

U.S. history - grabbing a dozen masterpieces from a Boston

museum possibly because they wanted a Vermeer of their own.

Eleven old master and impressionist paintings and a Chinese vase

from 1200 B.C. were stolen from the famed Isabelle Stewart

Gardner Museum in a pre-dawn robbery Sunday and police said

they were at a loss to explain the theft. The paintings are so well

known that they doubted the thieves would be able to seil them or

even take the risks involved in holding them for ransom. Among

the works taken were two Rembrandts, including his only

seascape, and a Vermeer painting of a young woman. Michael Finley, a senior vice president at Sotheby's in New York,

speculated that the Vermeer, one of only 32 by the artist that still

survives, may have been the main target. The Federal Bureau of

Investigation (FBI) said the theft of the paintings worth hundreds

of millions of dollars was the biggest in U.S. history and perhaps

the most dramatic art theft since the Mona Lisa was taken from

the Louvre in 1911.

French actress commits suicide

Zbinden said it was apparently a suicide.

Soviet support."

and population control.

be deployed at strategic installa-

It branded as illegal Lithuania's pledge to take control of all Soviet enterprises on its soil. Political tensions were stoked

even further as radical candidates, or those demanding independence, scored well in incomplete results from Sunday's parliamentary and local elections in five Soviet republics.

Gorbachev's action made use of the new broad powers of the country's executive presidency, to which he was elected by the Soviet parliament last week.

Since Lithuania's legislature made its breakaway move Gorbachev has refused to agree to "negotiations," saying those were reserved for foreign relations. But he has twice offered to hold less formal "discussions."

TASS said the government's move came after Gorbachev received a letter from Landsbergis refusing to accept the Soviet parliament's deision.

Gorbachev's warning to the

revolutionaries, pulling strings

Premier Chou Enlai, paid tribute

in his opening remarks to the

"proletarian revolutionaries of

the older generation" led by

Deng, did not attend the open-

Deng's designated successor,

Communist Party chief Jiang

Zemin, and military strongman

President Yang Shangkun, were among the top leaders at the

Li criticised past leadership

mistakes in an implicit attack on

Zhao Ziyang, the reformist party

leader ousted by hardliners after

the June crackdown. Zhao, who

has not been seen for 10 months.

ing session. No reason was given

for his absence although he was a member of the session's pres-

senior leader Deng Xiaoping.

Li, the adopted son of the late

behind the scenes.

lin concern that the republic's new parliament, chosen in weekend elections, might follow the example of Lithuania and attempt to reassest its pre-war independence.

Initial results from the Estonian elections reported Tuesday showed that deputies from the local Popular Front and other pro-independence movements had already gained a majority of the 105 seats so far in the count.

"It looks like pro-independence candidates will have a majority in the new parliament," said Mink Tiitma. "The Interement will not get more than 30 seats or so.

However, Soove said he believed it unlikely that the newlyelected Estonian parliament would immediately declare independence, predicting it would opt instead to open negotiations with the Kremlin

"I do not think that Estonia will follow Lithuania's path," he said. "We will proceed along

Punjab 6 in new

violence CHANDIGARH, India (R) — A bomb exploded near a crowded market in the Punjab capital of people, including the two sus-

pected Sikh separatists who were carrying it, Indian police said. They said the bomb, which also injured at least 13 people, apparently exploded pre-

they believed the intended target was a market close by in one of the busiest sections of the city. Police said two children on their way to school were among

the prime suspects.

bloodiest days for some months in the separatist campaign which started nearly 10 years ago. Nearly 30 people were killed, 14 of them in one attack.

Bringing peace to Punjab is a major item on Singh's agenda and police believe hardline militants, who will accept nothing less than independence, have intensified their campaign to stifle any com-

Sun sets on Africa's last colony

WINDHOEK, Namibia (Agencies) — Foreign leaders and diplomats streamed in to Windhoek Tuesday as Namibia counted down the final hours before independence at midnight.

Seventy-five years of South African rule was to end with a speech by South African President F.W. de Klerk before the South African flag was lowered for the last time and replaced by the red, green and blue banner of the new nation.

De Klerk arrived in Namibia Tuesday to oversee the final day of South African rule and the birth of the new nation.

He was welcomed at Windhoek's airport by a beaming President-Elect Sam Nujoma, the man who led the left-leaning South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) in a 23year guerrilla war against Pretoria's rule.

At midnight (2200 GMT) Nujoma will take the reins of government from his old adversary at Windhoek Sports Stadium before tens of thousands in a ceremony marking Namibia's independ-

After brief private talks, De Klerk, accompanied by South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha, left the airport for a 40kilometre drive into the normally-sleepy Namibian capital, now decked out with flags of the new republic and choked by convoys of excited citizens and cavalcades of foreign dignitaries.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will preside over the celebrations which bring to an end the world body's most expensive and most successful peacekeeping operation.
"The implementation of Re-

WINDHOEK (Agencies) -

President Jose Eduardo Dos San-

tos has adopted a more flexible

stand on moves to end Angola's

civil war, United States officials

said Tuesday.
In hour-long talks with U.S.
Secretary of State James Baker,

the highest-level contact be-

tween the two countries so far,

Dos Santos made clear he agreed

that a ceasefire was crucial to

peace, a senior U.S. official said.

cated he agrees a ceasefire is the

necessary first step to a political

solution and that his government is prepared to consider entering

into a negotiation." the official

"I noticed new flexibility on

told reporters.

"President Dos Santos indi-

solution 435(the U.N. independence plan) was one of the most complex operations ever undertaken by the United Nations," Peres de Cuellar told a contingent of U.N. peacekeeping troops after an inspection Tuesday.

The U.N. mission supervising the transition to independence began in near-disaster last April when South African troops killed hundreds of SWAPO guerrillas who had crossed the border from

Meetings between the scores of world leaders and officials attending the celebrations have pushed Namibian politics onto the side-

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Ednard Shevardnadze are due to meet Tuesday evening and Baker is scheduled to have talks with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher Wednesday. Both meetings are expected to dwell on the East German election.

Earlier Baker is due to hold talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, the highestlevel meeting ever between the two countries, on ways to end the crippling civil war which is ravaging Namibia's northern neigh-

But as world leaders ready for their business, ordinary Namibians are preparing to celebrate the end of outside rule in style.

Police patrols have been drafted in from Johannesburg to control the crowds, but the atmosphere is completely relaxed ahead of Africa's biggest party.

"Namibian people should open their hearts and show the generosity to the many international friends they have," Foreign

Angola more flexible on peace, U.S. says

peace," he said

bloodiest conflicts

tos... on the general issue of

Baker and Dos Santos are in

Windhoek to take part in Nami-

bia's independence celebrations.

Later this week, Baker will meet

right-wing rebel leader Jonas

Savimbi and Zairean President

Mobutu is mediating in the

15-year civil war, one of Africa's

The official said Assistant

Secretary of State for African

Affairs Herman Cohen would

meet Angolan Chief of Staff

Franca Ndalu in the next two

days to continue the discussions

begun with Dos Santos.
"The secretary said that in the

Mobutu Sese Seko in Zaire.

Minister-Elect Theo-Ben Gurirab said Toesday.

Years of squabbling over the constitutional future of Namibia and the ravages of the 23-yearlong civil war between SWAPO guerrillas and South African-led troops have been forgotten in favour of a spirit of peace and

conciliation. Namibian television carries regular appeal calling for the country's divided races and tribal groups to work together for a peaceful future.

"The spirit of independence is in the air. A vibrant young nation is being born," the advertisements say.

"This is a great time. It means we have freedom. We are going to celebrate all night," said Nicholas Van. Wyk, 21, a hotel worker.

Among the foreign guests attending the celebrations are Baker and Shevardnadze; Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak; Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi; the leaders of at least 10 African nations; and the foreign ministers of Britain, West Germany, Romania, Indonesia and other nations.

Many Namibians expressed hope that the new nation would solve past radical differences and overcome the economic and political problems facing many poor African nations.

"Other African countries have had disappointments after independence. I hope we have learned from those economic and political mistakes," said Simon Ekanjo, a student.

Some whites expressed concern about the new black government, but said they wanted to support the new nation.

beginning of a good faith negotia-

tion, the United States is pre-

pared to improve its relationship

with the government of Angola,

Meanwhile, Angolan military officials claimed Tuesday U.S.-

backed UNITA rebels killed one

Cuban soldier and wounded three

others in an attack in central

Angola, that could again threaten

the withdrawal of an estimated

18,000 Caban soldiers still in the

A statement signed by Angolan Defence Minister Pedro Maria

Tonha and carried by the Ango-

lan News Agency (ANGOP) said

the attack Saturday 60 kilometres

from the central city of Huambo

the official said.

African nation.

Couple reunited after 40 years

destroys computer files.

TOKYO (AP) — A 62-year-old South Korean woman was reunited with her husband who defected to Communist North Korea 40 years ago during the Korean war, press reports said Sunday. The emotional reunion occurred Saturday night when the woman hugged her 63-year-old husband, Sonn Young-Chong, after handing over a bunch of flowers from his homeland, according to the mass-circulation Yomiuri Shimban newspaper. The Yomiuri said Sohn left his home as a college student in Seoul and volunteered for the North Korean Army in 1950, when the North invaded the South, triggering a three-year war. He now has another wife and six children in North Korea, according to Yonhap, the South Korean News during an officially-guided tour as a Nother Korean historian.

Chinese probe mysteries of 1st emperor's tomb

PEKING (R) - The giant tomb

of China's first emperor, its mys-teries buried for over 2,000 years, is being revealed by experts using geophysical techniques. The New China News Agency (NCNA) said Sunday that archaeologists had revealed the layout of the tomb of Emperor Qinshi, celebrated for its accompanying army of thousands of terracotta warriors and horses, outside the central Chinese city of Xian. Professor Yuan Zhongyi leading the project says the tomb and its surrounding palace covers 30,000 square metres. The palace was walled and appears to be trapezoidal — kite-shaped — with the main entrance facing to the watchtower. Using seismic prospecting techniques, rather than excavating tonnes of earth, the team has also discovered storehouses on either side of the tomb as well as corridors and halls. The 7,000 life-size warriors were discovered in 1974 after farmers chanced upon the tomb. Ancient historical records report that the tomb of Qinshi, who died in 210 BC after becoming the first emperor of a unified China, was

gled to find work. They talked about the problems of being part of Hollywood history in a business that's always looking ahead.

"When you get over 80 the pressure are worse thant hey ever were," said Lean, who turned 81 on March 25, the day before the Academy Awards presentation. "Billy's bright as a button, real-

ly entertaining and really quick. You would think by the way he's treated, he's just beginning. Anybody who makes The Apartment and Some Like It Hot should be up in the highest position."

likes the young directors who greeted him so warmly on his recent trip. He is especially enthusiastic about Oliver Stone and predicts that Stone and other directors will eventually take control of Hollywood from the

including best picture.

"The filmmakers in Hollywood

They just give it to you on a plate. It's very nice for an old bird

bomb kills wave of

Chandigarh Tuesday, killing six

It went off in front of a government health clinic, but police said

They said it was almost certain the bombers Sikhs aged about 20, were militants fighting for an independent Sikh homeland in Punjab, a rich agricultural state.

A pistol and ammunition was

On Monday, a bomb exploded in one of New Delhi's busiest markets, killing one person. Police said Sikh militants were

Monday was one of the

Police said they were at a loss to explain the surge of violence, although the daily death toll in Punjab has increased since the new government of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh took office in December.

promise political deal.

Chandigarh, an elegant and spacious city designed by French architect Le Corbusier, has been largely free of separatist violence.

sea water is responsible for wide-spread outbreaks of gastro-intestinal diseases at ill-protected and crowded beaches and is a suspected cause of respiratory, ear and skin infections among bathers."

State of the Marine Environment," cited outbreaks of gastrointestinal diseases in Europe and North and South America. But tropical and sub-tropical waters of south and East Asia and the

same urban sewage threatening bathers could contaminate seafood, causing acute stomach ail-

"Infectious hepatitis is the most important viral infection transmitted by seafood, and numerous outbreaks of hepatitis demonstrate that (clams, mussels and oysters) grown in sewage-contaminated water are very effective carriers of the virus. Hepatitis is an acute inflamma-

The report was prepared by the Group of Experts of the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESMAP) and is the first international survive of the world's

tion of the liver which can be

was not mentioned by name. Study on oceans LUSAKA (R) — Soviet Foreign cussed the armed struggle and Minister Eduard Shevardnadze whether Moscow would continue finds danger to swimmers

LONDON (R) - Holidaymakers bathing on sewage-polluted coasts or eating seafood caught there could risk skin infections, stomach ailments, respiratory problems or even hepatitis, marine scientists said Monday. A report issued by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said children under five were at particular risk, as

well as tourists who lacked natural immunity to local disease.
"Earlier views that there is no demonstrable casual link between human disease and bathing in contaminated sea water can no longer be supported," the report

The meeting ran counter to the appeals of ANC leader Nelson "(Sewage) contamination of Mandela since his release from prison on Feb. 11 for the total isolation of South Africa's white-

> The 104-page report, "the Pacific suffered the worst.

The report also found that the

oceans since a similar survey pub-

lished eight years ago. The 20 scientists, led by Professor Alasdair McIntyre of the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, said open seas were still relatively clean, but coasts were affected. almost everywhere.

could provoke "gave consequences" for the Cuban pullout. the part of President Dos Sancontext of a ceasefire and the Mrs. Marcos offers to hand over part of fortune in letter to Bush

MANILA (Agencies) — Former country on security grounds. Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos, set to go on trial for fraud in New York has offered in a letter to U.S. President George Bush to hand over part of her late husband's fortune.

She said in the letter released by the Philippine government Tuesday that the money and property should be entrusted to a neutral committee that would distribute it to the poor of the Philippines.

Mrs. Marcos said that in return, the body of former President Ferdinand Marcos should be allowed to be taken back to the

'Philippines for burial. Marcos was temporarily interred in Hawaii, where he died in exile last September, after President Corazon Aquino refused to allow the late dictator back to the

Mrs. Marcos did not say in the letter how much money she was offering to turn over to the committee. The Philippines accuses the Marcoses of looting billions of

dollars from the country during the 20-year rule that ended when a popular revolt in 1986 swept Aquino to power.

Mrs. Marcos, is to go on trial in New York charged with fraud and conspiracy over the alleged theft of more than \$100 million

from the national treasury to buy Manhattan real estate. Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi is accused of aiding the couple by pretending to be

the owner of the disputed prop-A copy of Mrs. Marcos's letter,

dated March 5, was sent to the

Philippine ambassador in Washington but there was no immediate indication of any reaction from Bush. The Aquino government said it was too late to make a deal.

"It may not have dawned on her yet, but the days for plea bargaining in whatever form are just simply over. She is going to jail," said Philippine Press Secretary Tomas Connec. balloon that they have been trying time." he

Mrs. Marcos said after her husband died that in his will he had turned over his fortune to the Filipino people.

She said in the letter to Bush

that a five-member committee of neutral people who were neither American nor Filipino should supervised the distribution.

Foreign films invade Academy Awards By Hillel Italie that didn't stop the Academy of

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sir David Lean can only laugh at how calmly Hollywood is taking this year's "foreign invasion" of the Academy Awards: My Left Foot from Ireland,

five nominations including Best Picture; Camille Claudel from France, two nominations including best foreign film; Henry V from England, three nominations including best director. Yet. it's business as usual at

Oscars. There are, of course, the usual arguments over who made it and who didn't, but nothing like the press conference called by Samuel Goldwyn in 1946, when Lean's Brief Encounter and Laurence Olivier's Henry V were among several foreign films enjoying critical and commercial

"Hollywood is facing a challenge," said Goldwyn, producer of such films as Wuthering Heights and the Little Foxes. "Today it is by the British,

tomorrow it may be the French or the Italians or the Russians. To maintain it's place, Hollywood must set aside the old formulas. It must find honest stories, stories with something important to say, stories that reflect these disturb-

ing times in which we live." Lean was amazed by Goldwyn's warning because he was sure Brief Encounter would flop. After all, the film had closed down after three days in one Italian city because, the British filmmaker had heard, leading man Trevor Howard was too ugly.

Brief Encounter" received three nominations (but won no Oscars) and Lean eventually felt right at home at the Academy Awards, totalling 56 nominations and 27 awards for such films as Great Expectations, A Passage to India, the Bridge on the River Kwai and Lawrence of Arabia.

Since 1932, when Charles Laughton won best actor for the title role in a British production of the Private Life of Henry VIII. Oscar has had an ambivalent relationship with foreign movies. Hollywood preferred American products to win, but constantly recognised worthy foreign

efforts. Foreign films, especially British, have won various prizes from Cinematography (Black Narcissus) to best picture (Hamlet), from screenwriting (The Search) to costume design (La Dolce

In 1956, foreign language film became a separate category. Italy's La Strada won that year. But

Motion Picture Arts and Sciences from nominating foreign films and filmmakers in other categories. In 1966, the French film A Man and a Woman won a screenplay Oscar and was also named best foreign film. In 1973, Sven Nykvist won the cinematography award for Sweden's Cries and

The British have dominated the Oscars on several occasions, including Lawrence of Arabia in 1962, Tom Jones in 1963, Chariots of Fire in 1981 and A Room With A View in 1986. Lean has made just two films in the past 20 years: Ryan's Daugh-

ter and A Passage to India. There's too much talk about money, and ever since Easy Rider in 1969, producers have been looking for hit films that cost little to make. The director even longs for the

return of bosses such Goldwyn, tirades and all. "Hollywood was something special," Lean said. "Those

chaps like Goldwyn, they were uneducated, but all of them, however tough, whatever they were, they just loved movies and sought quality. Now, it's, 'how much?"

Lean spoke of a recent dinner with Billy Wilder, another Oscarwinning director who has strug-

Fortunately, Lean said, he

agents and lawyers.
Stone recently won the Directors Guild Award for his Born On the Fourth of July, which has received eight Oscar nominations

I think are very special. They're really keen and they're all full of enthusiasm that doesn't seem to be at all envious of others," Lean

soon looted. Globai weather (major world cities)

AMSTERDAM ... 08 43 11 52 Clear
ATHENS ... 11 52 25 77 Clear
BAHRAIN ... 15 59 20 58 Cloudy
BANGROK ... 25 77 33 91 Clear
BLIENOS AIRES 14 57 24 75 Clear
CAIRO ... 08 48 23 73 Clear
CHICAGO ... -05 23 -01 30 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN 65 -A1 16 61 Clear
CAIRO ... 08 46 20 68 Cloudy
GENEWA ... 02 36 16 61 Clear
HONG KONG ... 17 63 23 73 Clear
STANBUL ... 07 45 15 53 Clear PARIS...... 10 50 15 59 Cloudy SYDNEY 16 60 23 73 Cloudy

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